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ANNUAL REPORT

COVER

1 ALESSANDRO BOSSHARD, LI TAVOR, MATTHEW VAN DER PLOEG AND ANI VIHervaara, «Svizzera 240: House Tour», Swiss Pavilion, 16th International Architecture Biennale – La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, 26 May–25 November 2018

2 ASPHALT PILOTEN, «Fragmented», Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow, 23 October–4 November 2018

The 2018 Annual Report of the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia, together with its annual accounts (available in German, French and Italian), is also accessible online at

WWW.PROHELVETIA.CH/ANNUAL-REPORT

Each year, Pro Helvetia publishes the projects it has supported or undertaken during the reporting period at WWW.PROHELVETIA.CH/REPORT. This online database enables users to search for individuals and institutions that have received support, as well as for project types, event locations and the amount of funding awarded.

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1 CHRISTIAN MARCLAY, «Investigations»,
Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival,
Huddersfield (UK), 18 November 2018

2 MANDEEP RAIKHY, «Queen Size», Kaserne
Basel, Basel, «CROSSROADS International
Perspectives on Culture, Art and Society»,
9 February 2018

3 «Alphorn meets Züri West», Stubete am See,
Zurich, 18–19 August 2018

4 Design Switzerland, London Design Junction,
London, 20–23 September 2018





I. A LOOK AT THE YEAR 2018

Pro Helvetia's activities in 2018 continued to focus on promoting cultural diversity and cultural exchange. Among others, the Arts Council strengthened its cultural contacts with South America through its «COINCIDENCIA» programme and promoted more European cooperation in the performative arts. Important events included the anniversaries of three of its liaison offices and the awarding of the Golden Lion to the Swiss Pavilion at the 16th International Architecture Biennale in Venice.



CULTURE ESTABLISHES CONNECTIONS

Charles Beer, Chairman of the Board of Trustees



The year 2018 was marked by the discussion about the increasing importance of borders and by the growing resistance to the consequences of globalisation. These political developments make it even more important for culture to assume its essential role in society and to uphold various core values: openness, dialogue and bridge-building. Its mediating and critical role is essential at all levels today, whether international, continental, national or regional. Culture, in its own way, can contribute to understanding that we can only meet the current political, environmental and economic challenges if we address them simultaneously at the local and at the global level.

Pro Helvetia is more than aware of this responsibility and is doing all it can to ensure that art and culture in their many forms have the necessary place in society. From creation to promotion, the Arts Council develops its activities in the various regions of Switzerland and also worldwide. It supports Swiss artists and the dissemination of their works with the intention of promoting their artistic development, giving them creative freedom and making them better known at home and abroad.

In this sense, the Board of Trustees performs its duties in the interest of Swiss art and culture with great commitment. Its nine members reflect both Switzerland's linguistic diversity and gender parity, as well as possess the cultural and operational skills required for an organisation like Pro Helvetia. We are therefore delighted that in 2018 we were able to welcome three new, highly qualified members – Françoise König Gerny, Marie-Thérèse Bonadonna and Hannes Gassert – who will make a significant contribution to fulfilling our mandate.

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«OPENING UP AND KEEPING OPEN CREATIVE SPACES»

Philippe Bischof, Director

Networks shape our everyday lives. In the highly mobile world of art and culture, forms of cooperation are widespread. Artists network across borders, be they disciplinary, geographical or social.

One of Pro Helvetia's central tasks as the Swiss Arts Council is not only to identify and facilitate important networks, but also to ensure that artists are able to create a lasting impact and to achieve resonance in the spaces thereby created. In times of worldwide political hardening and demarcation movements, it is indispensable to keep open free spaces for reflection and creativity. The new «COINCIDENCIA – Swiss & South American Cultural Exchanges» programme, which enabled numerous transcontinental cultural encounters and projects in 2018, made an important contribution in this respect. 120 projects have already been initiated or realised, in eight South American countries as well as in Switzerland, and numerous long-term cooperations have been established. Swiss artists have toured South America or have worked with local artists as part of research stays and workshops. The first productions and activities to emerge from these cooperations have been presented in various places in Switzerland, among others, in Nyon, Basel and Zurich.

For an arts council like Pro Helvetia, however, creating impact and resonance also means advancing into new areas, both in terms of substance and of aesthetics. By establishing comprehensive support for design and interactive media, Pro Helvetia supports creative practitioners working at the interface between art, technology and business to assert themselves and their products in competitive international markets. The Swiss Arts Council accounts for these needs with a specific funding model designed to interrelate culture and business. In 2018, this approach achieved promising results: A total of 125 young game and design studios presented their sponsored creations and products at international trade fairs in San Francisco, Shenzhen, Paris, Milan and London, and thereby received direct feedback from retailers and industry.

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Such projects, which are also commercially successful, ought not to disguise the fact that culture and its promotion can and should never function according to the rules of the classical market. This is because artists often operate in small niches and networks that are significant in their field and ensure that new forms of expression can emerge. One example is «Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival». While perhaps not known to a wider audience, it is one of the world's most important platforms for new and

experimental music. Pro Helvetia is delighted to have been able to support contemporary Swiss music in gaining great international attention thanks to several years of collaboration with this festival.

Sometimes, however, it may only take very few people to create resonance. Personally, I was particularly pleased last year by the commitment

of the Geneva festival «Les Créatives», which spontaneously organised two panel discussions on the pressing issue of «Equal opportunities in culture». Considering the many events that we supported in 2018, this may appear to be a mere footnote to our activities. But it is precisely such well-targeted initiatives, motivated by current issues in cultural policy, that carry important concerns into new networks and enable us to think about tomorrow from today – always through alert interaction with the respective social, economic and political circumstances. For that is the real *raison d'être* of cultural promotion: to deal actively and openly with the important questions of the present, in order to set the course for the future.

II. OUR MISSION IN SWITZER- LAND

Supporting Swiss artistic creation in all its diversity and ensuring its dissemination across Switzerland's different language regions are at the heart of Pro Helvetia's activities. The Arts Council is also committed to giving new impetus to cultural life through its initiatives. Pro Helvetia supports projects of national significance.

Supporting emerging artists

Enabling emerging artists to access the professional arts scene.

Exchange and promotion

Supporting artistic projects that promote exchange between regions and advance social cohesion.

Stimulating culture

Supporting innovative projects with a high cultural stimulus potential.

Supporting creation

Granting financial support to artists to help them produce original works of art.

Cultural outreach

Promoting innovative and exemplary projects that enable broad audiences to critically engage with art and culture.



OUR FIVE AREAS OF ACTIVITY IN SWITZERLAND

OUR ACTIVITIES IN 2018

In 2018, Pro Helvetia supported over 1600 art and cultural projects across Switzerland. In the second year of its special focus «New models of collaboration – Culture and Business», the Art Council's most important domestic measures included calls for design and interactive media projects. The new funding model successfully established itself in a short space of time.

Pro Helvetia supports **CREATIVITY** and thus contributes to ensuring the diversity and high quality of cultural production in Switzerland. In 2017, Pro Helvetia awarded work grants to Swiss artists to enable original creations in the disciplines of visual arts, music, dance, theatre and literature. In the field of visual arts, Pro Helvetia awards grants that cover the various phases of the creative process from research to production, including presentation. One such project was Julian Charrière's «Invitation to Disappear», which was presented at the Kunsthalle Mainz (Germany) (Fig. 4). In the field of dance, for instance, Compagnie.sh was supported with a work grant for its «Projet F», which blends circus, theatre and music.

Pro Helvetia fosters **ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE** between the various regions of Switzerland. The exhibitions, theatre and dance productions, festivals, concert cycles, translations or folk culture events backed by Pro Helvetia build bridges between different linguistic regions and cultural communities and thereby strengthen social cohesion. In 2018, for example, Pro Helvetia supported the interdisciplinary programme for performative arts at La Bâtie – Festival de Genève. This enabled six productions from German-speaking Switzerland to be presented to a French-speaking audience (Fig. 5). The first edition of Jungspund – Theatre Festival for Young Audiences in St. Gallen, which featured high-quality performances from across Switzerland, was also awarded a grant.

Pro Helvetia supports **EMERGING ARTISTS** and helps them access the Swiss and the international professional scene. In collaboration with its partner institutions, Pro Helvetia offers services ranging from residency and coaching programmes to grants for public presentations and promotional measures. In 2018, the Arts Council intensified its participation in international residency programmes, for instance through cooperation with the Centre National de la Danse and La Belle Ouvrage (FR) as part of its joint continuing education programme «Édition spéciale» for young choreographers (Fig. 2). Pro Helvetia also supported various art spaces in Switzerland, such as La Rada in Locarno or Milieu in Bern, in order to give young artists the opportunity to gain their first exhibition experience.

Pro Helvetia is well attuned to issues and trends in contemporary artistic creation and backs innovative projects able to provide **FRESH CULTURAL STIMULUS** in Switzerland. In 2018, Pro Helvetia launched the «Tandem Interkultur» call as part of its «Intercultural Society» initiative. The call issued within the special focus «New models of collaboration – Culture and Business» attracted 168 project proposals in the field of design and 139 in the field of interactive media. Those supported included designer Rafael Kouto, who received a grant to prototype his fashion and textile collection (Fig. 1).

Pro Helvetia supports **CULTURAL OUTREACH** projects that are innovative in their approach, serve as examples, and encourage open-minded engagement with the arts. In 2018, for example, the Arts Council supported the educational project «Body buddies» at Kunsthalle Basel, which provided visitors an individualised exhibition experience via augmented reality. Avatars guided visitors through the exhibition space, where reality and virtuality coalesced, and offered additional explanations of the works if desired (Fig. 3).

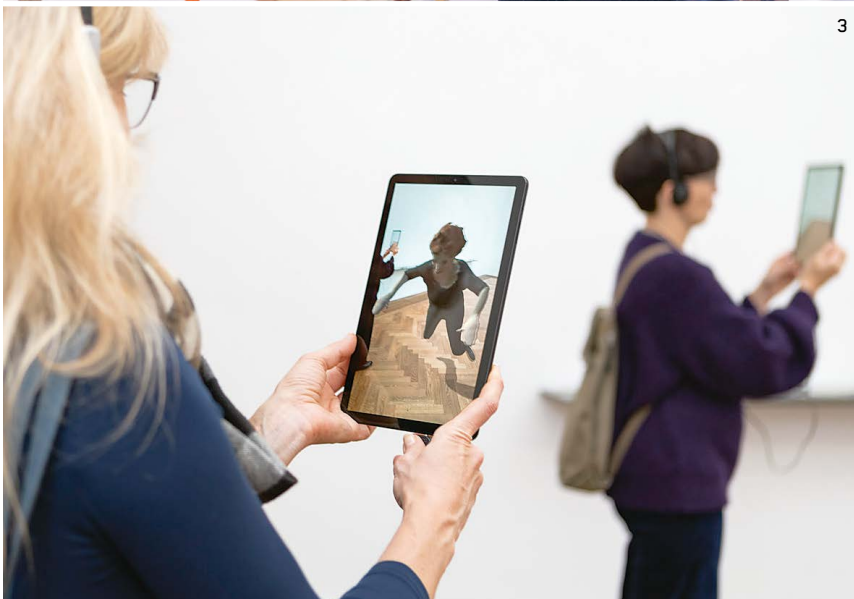
1 RAFAEL KOUTO, «All the nothing that will remain», Superstudio 13, Fuorisalone, Milan, 17–22 April 2018

2 RUDI VAN DER MERWE, «Blue Moves», a choreography developed in the context of «Édition spéciale», Association pour la Danse Contemporaine, Geneva, 5–9 and 12–16 December 2018

3 «Body Buddies», an art education project presented in the context of the exhibition «A Tooth for an Eye», Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, 17 November–30 December 2018

4 JULIAN CHARRIÈRE, «An Invitation to Disappear – Sabah 2018»

5 SIMONE AUGHTERLONY and JEN ROSENBLIT, «Everything Fits in the Room», La Bâtie – Festival de Genève, Geneva, 14–15 September 2018



III. OUR MISSION ABROAD

Pro Helvetia supports the presentation of Swiss artistic projects abroad. It sponsors the promotion of Swiss art and culture in an international context, for example at trade fairs or biennials. Its network of offices abroad and its country programmes foster cultural exchange.

Promotion

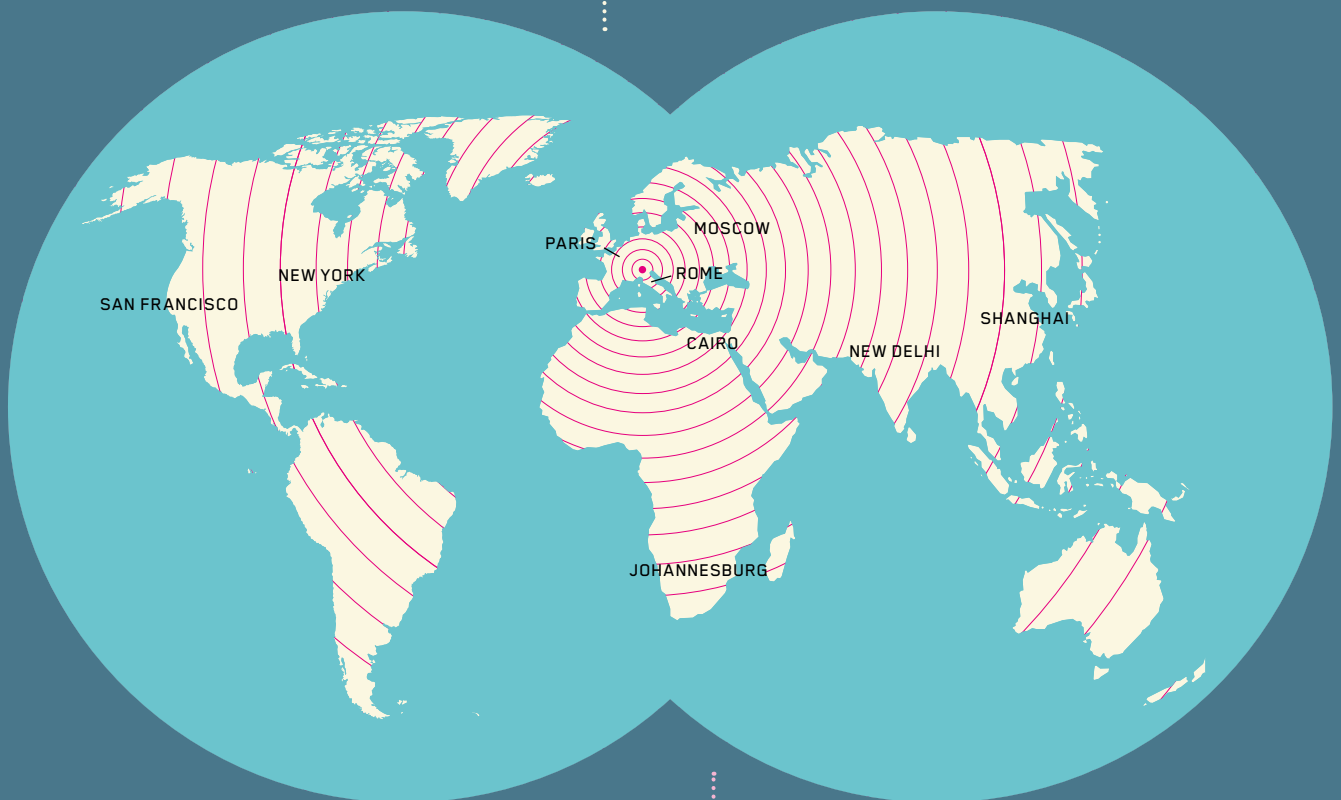
Helping Swiss cultural practitioners forge contacts abroad and raise their visibility among international event managers and culture specialists.

Dissemination

Strengthening the international presence of Swiss artists and the dissemination of their works abroad.

Swiss participation

Sponsoring Swiss participation and special features on Swiss creation at internationally renowned events.



International cultural exchange

Fostering knowledge exchange between Swiss and international arts practitioners.

New networks, regions and markets

Preparing the ground for Swiss cultural practitioners to enter new networks, regions and markets.

OUR FIVE AREAS OF ACTIVITY ACROSS THE WORLD

OUR ACTIVITIES IN 2018

In 2018, Pro Helvetia supported a total of around 4500 art and cultural projects in 108 countries. Particular emphasis was placed on presenting Swiss focal programmes at important international events, as well as celebrating the anniversaries of our liaison offices in Cairo (30 years), Johannesburg (20 years) and New Delhi (10 years).

Pro Helvetia **SUPPORTS THE DISSEMINATION** of works by Swiss artists who have been invited by renowned institutions, event organisers or festivals abroad. Funding is provided for theatre and dance productions, concert tours, readings, exhibitions and the publication of translations of Swiss literature. In Armenia and Russia, Pro Helvetia 2018 supported the presentation of «Stimmvolk – Volksstimme», an exhibition of Swiss political campaign posters since 1918 (Fig. 2). The Arts Council also supported Christian Marclay's residency at Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival (UK), where his work «Investigations», a composition for 20 pianos, premiered (Fig. 1 p. 2).

The Arts Council implements a wide range of **PROMOTIONAL MEASURES** to raise awareness of Swiss cultural production among Swiss and foreign professionals. These include both online platforms, such as DESIGNSWITZERLAND.CH, launched with a view to the London Design Junction (Fig. 4 p. 3), as well as promotional events. In 2018, the Arts Council's «Visiting Programme» with its liaison offices once again enabled international curators to meet young photographers as part of «Plat(t)form 18» at the Fotomuseum Winterthur. Pro Helvetia also enabled Swiss game studios to participate at «Gamescom» (Cologne, Germany) and at «Nordic Game» (Malmö, Sweden) (Fig. 4).

Pro Helvetia organises and sponsors **SWISS PARTICIPATION** and special features on Swiss creation at numerous internationally renowned events, fairs and biennials. In 2018, for instance, Pro Helvetia organised «Svizzera 240: House Tour», an exhibition shown in the Swiss Pavilion at the 16th Venice International Architecture Biennale and awarded the Golden Lion for the best national contribution (Fig. Cover). The Arts Council also ensured the presence of Swiss contributions at numerous important industry meetings such as the «Tanzmesse» in Düsseldorf, the «CINARS» Biennale for Stage Arts in Montreal or the «London Design Biennale» (Fig. 3). It also presented young Swiss literature as part of «Spotlight Switzerland» at the international literature festival «ilb» in Berlin.

Pro Helvetia encourages exchange with other cultures, in particular through **RESIDENCIES, KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE** and cooperation projects. Swiss cultural practitioners who benefit from these measures expand their network, become familiar with other cultural contexts and gain new pro-

fessional experience. Pro Helvetia collaborates closely with its liaison offices (p. 17) and thus enables numerous cultural practitioners from various disciplines and regions to benefit from studio residencies abroad. In February, Pro Helvetia celebrated the anniversaries of three of its branch offices and, in cooperation with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), organised «CROSSROADS – International Perspectives on Culture, Art and Society» in Basel and Geneva (Fig. 2, p. 3). Exchanging knowledge was also the focus of the «Swiss Autumn in Russia», which offered Swiss dance professionals the opportunity to present their work in Russia and to take part in workshops and conferences (Fig. 1).

Finally, Pro Helvetia targets **NEW NETWORKS, REGIONS AND MARKETS** in which it identifies opportunities for intensifying exchange and for strengthening the presence of Swiss art and culture, in particular by initiating partnerships with regional organisers. In 2018, the Arts Council supported tours, exhibitions, concerts as well as research and residency programmes as part of «COINCIDENCIA – Swiss & South American Cultural Exchanges» (Fig. 5). In Europe, Pro Helvetia designed new promotional structures for London and Berlin as early as 2017, based on which the first projects took concrete shape in 2018. Among these was «Literally Swiss», a series of events in London dedicated to Swiss literary creation. In 2018, Pro Helvetia also supported projects in response to the «Performative Arts in Europe» call. These included the «Réseau européen d'accompagnement dramaturgique pour jeunes chorégraphes», established by the Théâtre Sévelin in Lausanne together with Belgian, Danish and Italian partners.

1 ASPHALT PILOTEN, «Fragmented», Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow, 23 October–4 November 2018

2 «Stimmvolk – Volksstimme», HAYP Popup Gallery, Yerevan (Armenia), 29 June–15 July 2018

3 «Body of us», London Design Biennale, Somerset House, London (UK), in the context of the Swiss contribution, 4–23 September 2018

4 SwissGames, Nordic Game Conference, Malmö, Sweden, in the context of the special focus «New models of collaboration – Culture and Business 2016–2020», 23–25 May 2018

5 Tempo Festival, Cabaret Voltaire, Zurich, in the context of «COINCIDENCIA – Swiss & South American Cultural Exchanges», 19–28 October 2018



OUR OFFICES ABROAD

Pro Helvetia promotes cultural exchange between Switzerland and the outside world through its network of offices abroad. These include its liaison offices, the Centre culturel suisse run by Pro Helvetia in Paris, and several partner institutions.

The Centre culturel suisse in Paris (CCS)

Funded by Pro Helvetia, the Centre culturel suisse in Paris is dedicated to promote contemporary Swiss creation in France while supporting exchange between the countries' artistic scenes. Its two exhibition rooms, stage and bookshop provide a platform for all artistic disciplines and interdisciplinary projects. The CCS presents a multifaceted programme of over 70 events in the fields of literature, dance, theatre, music, visual arts, film and architecture each year. In 2018, for example, the Centre culturel suisse hosted «Just Another Dance», the largest exhibition to date by Swiss artist Urs Lüthi in France, which included mostly new works and ones partly produced by the CCS.

In October 2018, Jean-Marc Diébold succeeded Jean-Paul Felley and Olivier Kaeser, whose term of office as CCS directors came to an end after ten years.

WWW.CCSPARIS.COM

Our partners

Based on support agreements, Pro Helvetia contributes funds to the cultural programmes of three Swiss partner institutions abroad: the Istituto Svizzero (IS) in Rome and its branch in Milan (WWW.ISTITUTOSVIZZERO.IT), the Swiss Institute in New York (WWW.SWISSINSTITUTE.NET) and swissnex San Francisco (WWW.SWISSNEXSANFRANCISCO.ORG). These partnerships give Swiss cultural practitioners access to local and niche networks in academia and science as well as in the creative and technological industries.

The liaison offices

Pro Helvetia's liaison offices abroad are key to the Arts Council's international cultural exchange work. The liaison offices in Cairo (since 1988), Johannesburg (since 1998), New Delhi (since 2007), Shanghai (since 2010) and Moscow (since February 2017) are stable anchor points that enable Pro Helvetia to pursue its mission of promoting Swiss art and culture throughout the world. They build on networks and local staff who observe and act on both regional and global developments. Based on a mandate from the SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation), Pro Helvetia also supports and promotes local professional arts scenes as well as regional exchange in Southern Africa. In August 2018, Lucy Lu took over the Shanghai Liaison Office from Sylvia Xu, who had headed the office since its launch in 2010.

In cooperation with local partners the liaison offices support projects from all of Pro Helvetia's funded divisions, for example:

1 COMPANIE BACCALÀ, «PSS PSS», Backstreet Festival, Institut français d'Égypte, Alexandria, 15 April 2018

2 NDUDUZO MAKHATHINI, «Inner Dimensions», Mama Jaz, Port-Louis (Mauritius), April 2018

3 ARIANE VON GRAFFENRIED, «Spoken Word», Long Night of LiteratureS, (India), 28 September 2018

4 «Staging Alterity», Shanghai Ming Contemporary Art Museum, Shanghai, 21–24 August 2018

5 «Swiss Photobooks Today: From the Amazon to the Vienna Ball», Typographia Center of Contemporary Art, Krasnodar (Russia), 14 September–29 October 2018



- **PRO HELVETIA CAIRO** supported, among others, the performance of «PSS PSS» by Ticino company Bacçalà in Alexandria as part of the Backstreet Festival, an international festival for contemporary circus and street art. Part of the event also served as a platform for exchange and dialogue among the participating artists.
WWW.PROHELVETIA.ORG.EG



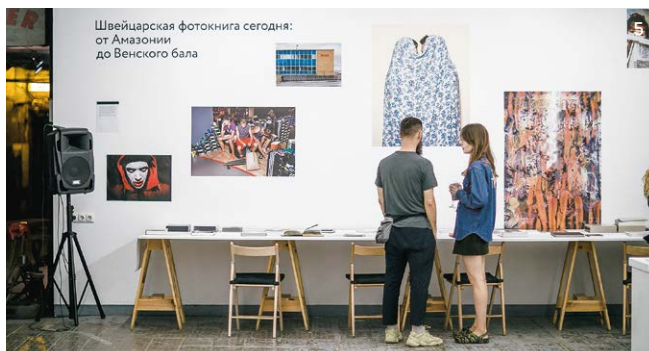
- **PRO HELVETIA JOHANNESBURG** supported, among others, the tour of the music project «Inner Dimensions» by Nduduzo Makhathini following his residency at the Musikerwohnhaus Basel. Together with musicians from Switzerland and Southern Africa, Makhathini performed in Cape Town, Johannesburg and at the «Mama Jaz» jazz festival in Mauritius in spring 2018. The project was honoured as the «Best Jazz Album» at the South African Music Awards.
WWW.PROHELVETIA.ORG.ZA



- **PRO HELVETIA NEW DELHI** presented, among others, readings and performances by the author and spoken word performer Ariane von Graffenried, a member of the collective «Bern ist überall», at the «Long Night of LiteratureS» in Delhi, at the «Pune International Literary Festival» and at «An Evening of Poetry» in Bangalore.
WWW.PROHELVETIA.IN



- **PRO HELVETIA SHANGHAI** enabled Swiss artists, for example, to participate in a research and work project at the Ming Contemporary Art Museum (MCAm) in Shanghai. Under the direction of curator Zhao Chuan, «Staging Alterity» brought together young artists from across the world and highlighted various aspects of performance in the fields of dance, theatre and video art.
WWW.PROHELVETIA.CN



- **PRO HELVETIA MOSCOW** supported, for example, the exhibition «Swiss Photobooks Today: From the Amazon to the Vienna Ball» at the Typographia Center of Contemporary Art in Krasnodar, a selection of publications by contemporary Swiss photographers. Among the photo books presented were «The Jungle Book» by Yann Gross, «Kodak City» by Catherine Leutenegger and «There Are No Homosexuals in Iran» by Laurence Rasti.
WWW.PROHELVETIA.RU

IV. FACTS AND FIGURES

Of the CHF 42.1 million available to Pro Helvetia in 2018, 88.2% were invested directly in culture. At 11.8%, the share of administration costs was well below the federal government's strategic target of 15%. In 2018, Pro Helvetia received almost 5500 applications. The proportion of approved applications decreased again, from 48.5% in the previous year to 47.3%.

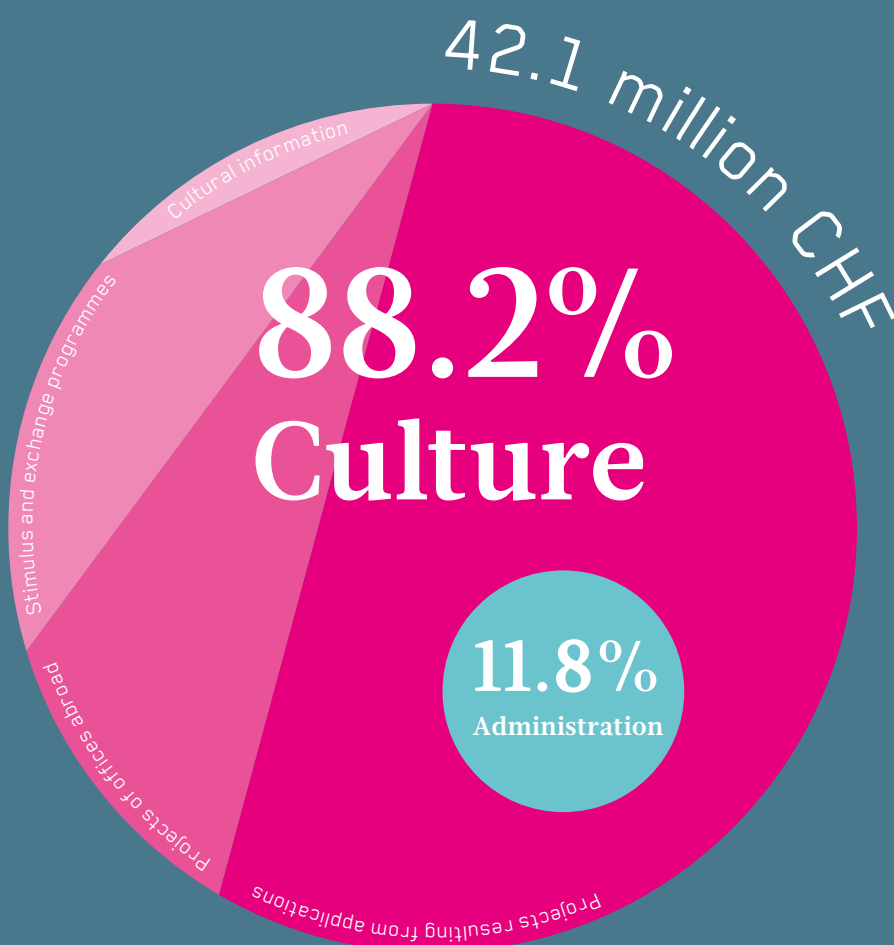
Culture – our top priority

88.2% of the CHF 42.1 million spent by Pro Helvetia in 2018 went directly to culture. Administrative costs (11.8%), calculated on the basis of ZEWO standards, remained clearly below the strategic threshold of 15% prescribed by the Swiss Confederation.

Projects resulting from applications	25.7 million
Projects of offices abroad	6.2 million
Stimulus and exchange programmes	4.7 million
Cultural information	0.5 million
Administration	5.0 million

Amounts spent in CHF

In the context of the Federal Cultural Policy Statement («Cultural Message»), Swiss Parliament grants Pro Helvetia a framework budget every four years. The Arts Council will receive CHF 210.9 million for the 2016–2020 period (a one-off five-year period). The 2018 instalment of CHF 42.3 million amounted to CHF 40.3 million due to budget cuts.



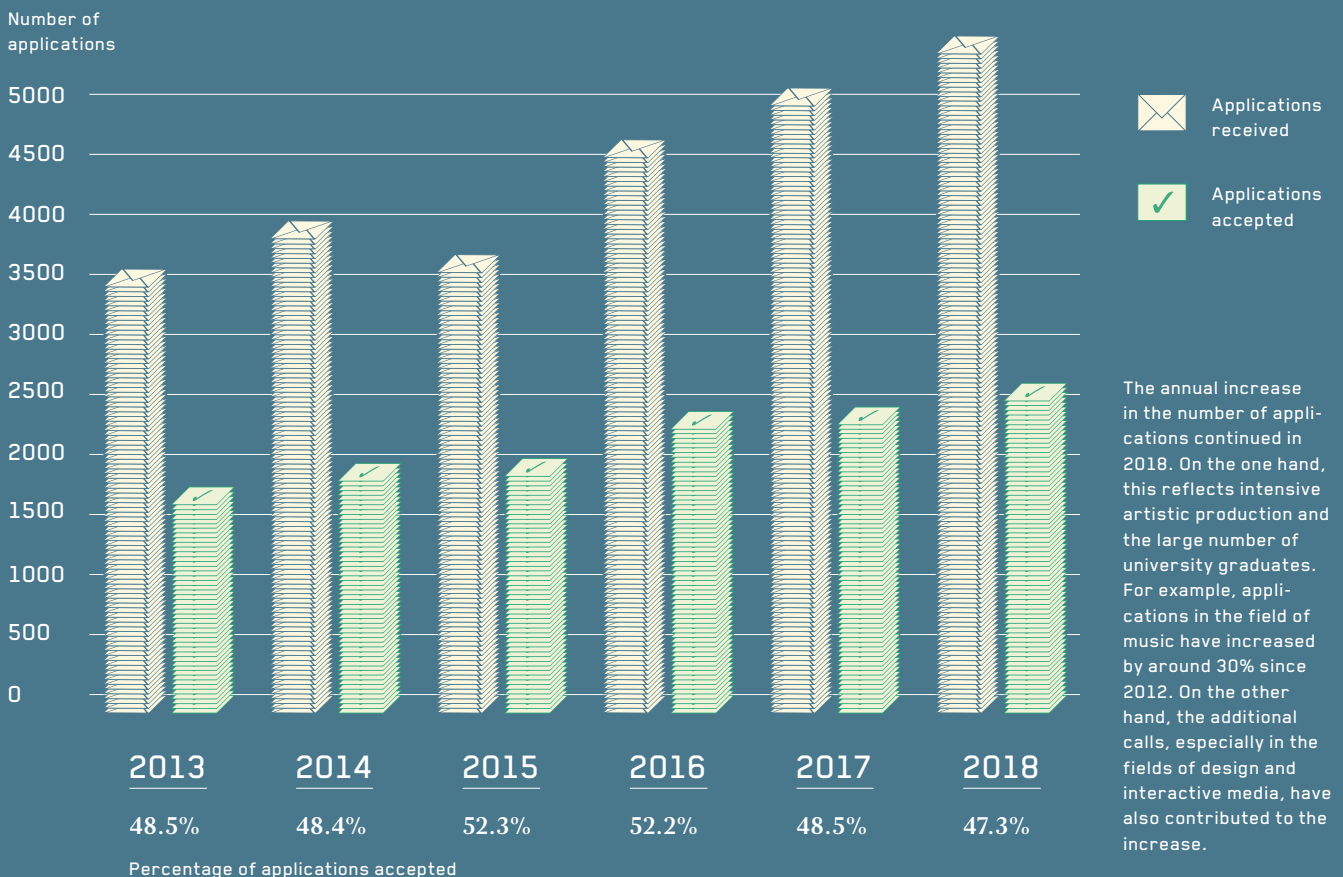
Overview of applications received

In 2018, Pro Helvetia received 5492 applications. Support was granted to projects in the visual arts, music, literature and society, theatre, dance and – subsumed under the umbrella term «Interdisciplinarity» – to cross-disciplinary projects including interactive media, design and new technologies.

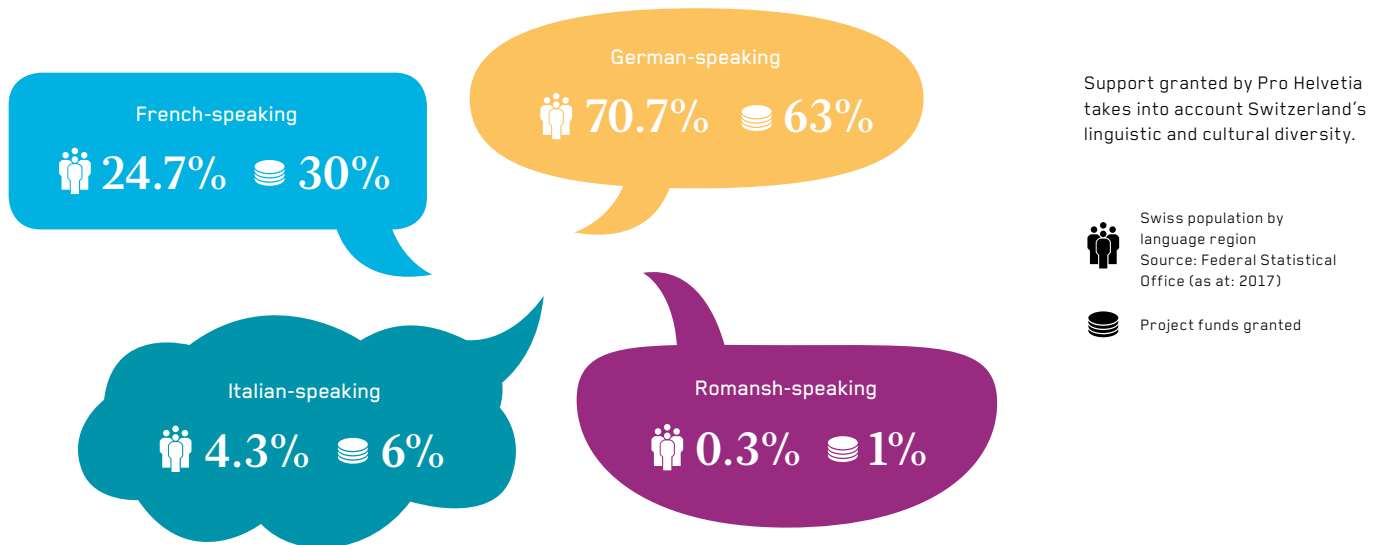
One appeal was filed in 2018, on which no court ruling had yet been issued by 31 December 2018. The Federal Administrative Court has final judicial authority to hear appeals against Pro Helvetia's decisions.



Development of the number of applications

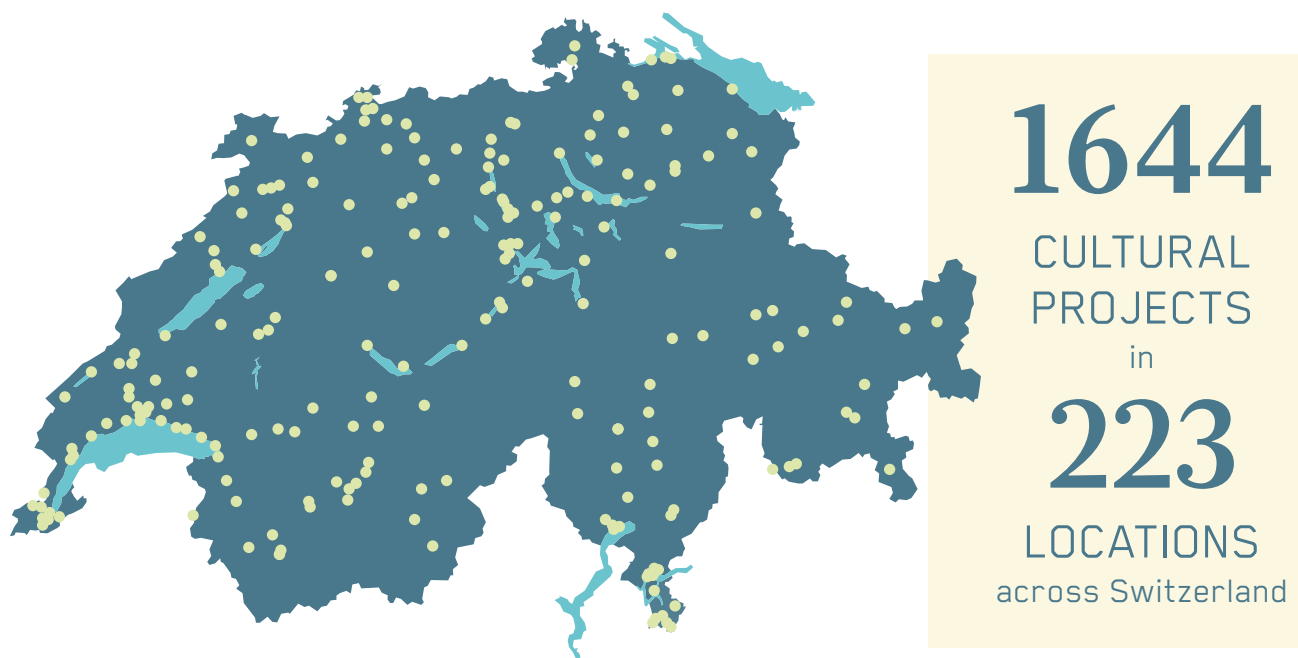


Support granted with due emphasis on diversity



Support granted in all regions of Switzerland

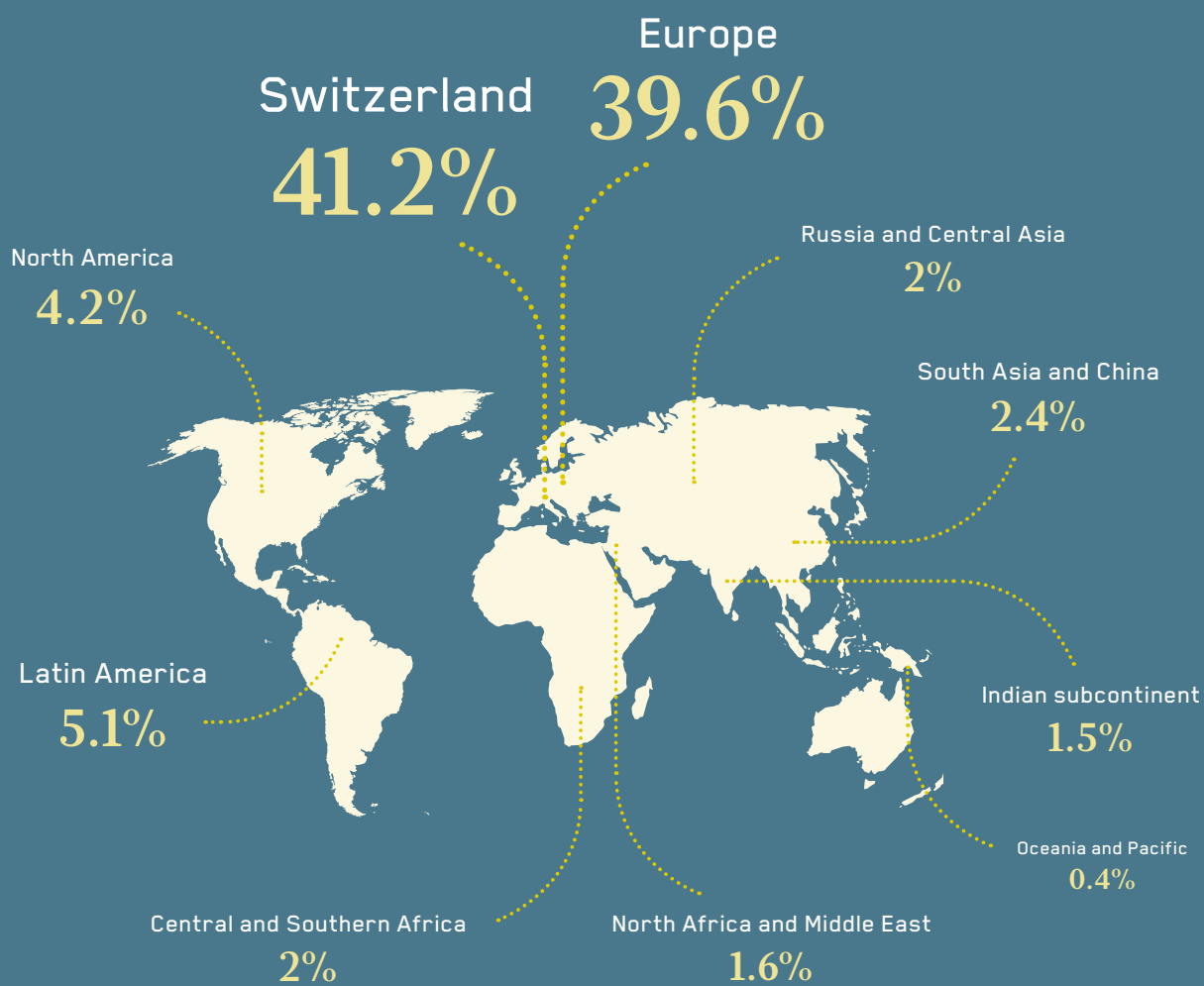
In 2018, Pro Helvetia's support helped to realise 1644 art and cultural projects in Switzerland. These were spread across 223 localities across the country – from municipalities in rural regions such as Scuol, Gelfingen or Verscio to medium-size towns such as Lenzburg, Fribourg or Locarno and densely populated urban centres such as Bern, Geneva, Basel or Zurich.



Promotion of Swiss culture around the world

In addition to its domestic activities, Pro Helvetia supported around 4500 Swiss art and cultural projects in 108 countries in 2018.

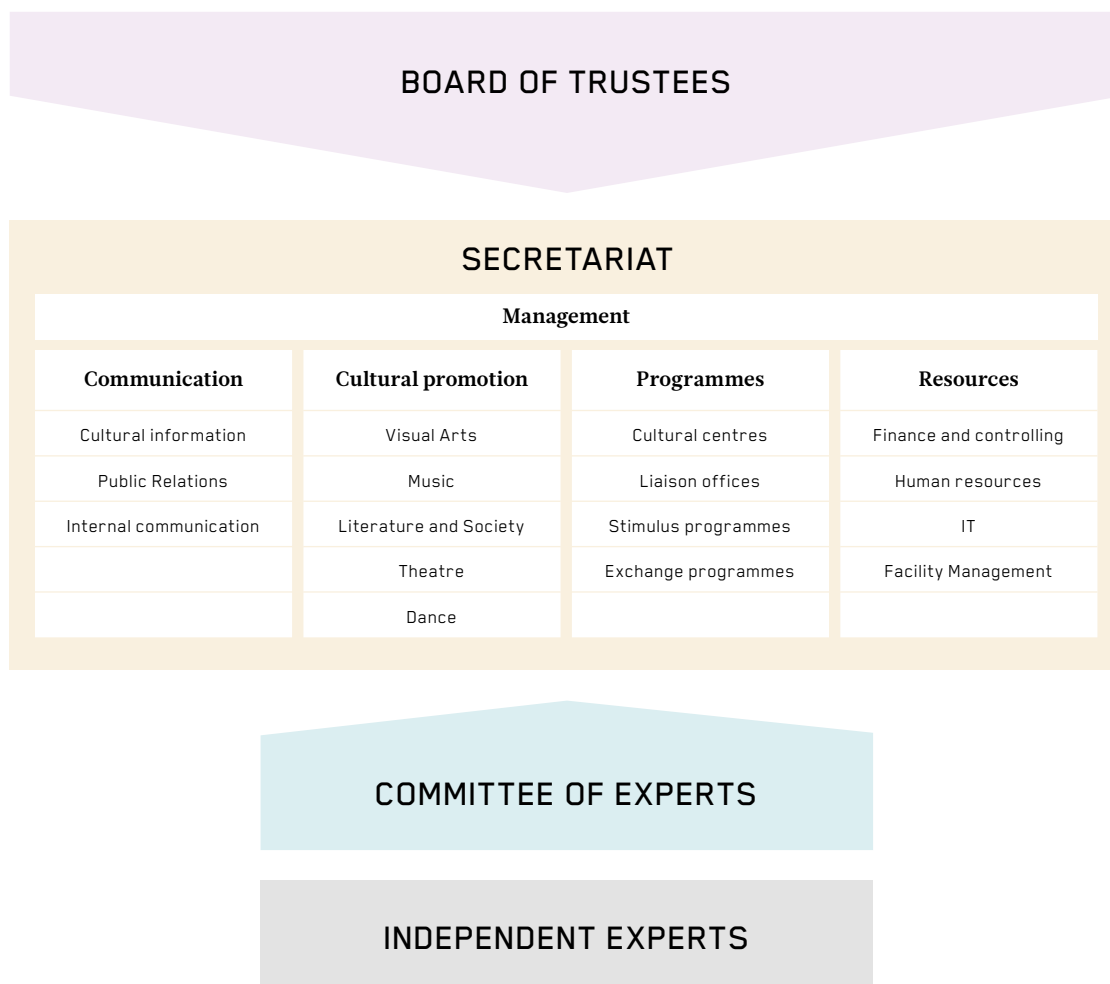
Regions of the world where Swiss artistic and cultural projects were supported:



V. ORGAN- ISATION

The nine-member Board of Trustees, chaired by former Geneva State Councillor Charles Beer, is responsible for the Art Council's strategy. The Secretariat (head office) is responsible for implementing strategy and for all operational matters. It can draw on the knowledge and expertise of the Committee of Experts and on that of independent experts. 109 staff in Switzerland and abroad ensure that Pro Helvetia conducts its business as efficiently and effectively as possible.

ORGANISATIONAL CHART



Individuals and their functions are presented on the following pages.

Board of Trustees

- 9 MEMBERS, REPRESENTING
- Artistic creation
 - Business, finance
 - Cultural communication
 - Cultural enterprise
 - Cultural organisation
 - Cultural outreach
 - Cultural studies
 - Law
 - Politics

Committee of Experts

- 13 MEMBERS, REPRESENTING
- Cultural studies
 - Dance
 - Digital culture
 - Literature
 - Music
 - Theatre
 - Visual arts

Independent experts

- 37 PERSONS, REPRESENTING
- Architecture
 - Classical music
 - Contemporary circus
 - Contemporary theatre
 - Cultural studies
 - Cultural outreach
 - Dance / Performance
 - Design
 - Folk dance
 - Folk music
 - Folk theatre
 - Interactive media
 - Literature, German-speaking
 - Literature, French-speaking
 - Literature, Italian-speaking
 - Literature, Romansh-speaking
 - Musical theatre
 - Offices abroad
 - Photography
 - Pop music
 - Theatre, Italian-speaking
 - Translation
 - Video games
 - Visual arts

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees consists of nine members who represent the diversity of Switzerland's cultural life and that of its language communities. Board members are elected by the Federal Council for a four-year term of office. Each member may be re-elected only once. In 2018, the Board of Trustees welcomed three new members: Françoise König Gerny succeeded Felix Uhlmann, Marie-Thérèse Bonadonna succeeded Anne-Catherine Sutermeister and Hannes Gassert succeeded Guillaume Juppín de Fondaumière.

Artistic creation

NICOLE SEILER, Lausanne
Dancer and choreographer

Business and finance

PETER SIEGENTHALER, Bremgarten near Bern
Vice-president of Pro Helvetia, member of the Board of Directors, Swiss Federal Railways and Cantonal Bank of Bern

Cultural communication

SUSANNA FANZUN, Scuol
Freelance film director and journalist; director of Pisoc Pictures, Scuol

Cultural enterprise

HANNES GASSERT, Zurich
Cultural and technology entrepreneur, co-founder Liip, crstl, Opendata.ch, CooperativeSuisse

Cultural institutions

MARCO FRANCIOLLI, Lugano
Former director of the Museo della Svizzera italiana, member of the Board of Trustees of the Fotostiftung Winterthur, vice-president of the Board of Trustees of the Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne

Cultural outreach

JOHANNES SCHMID-KUNZ, Bubikon
Owner of the cultural management agency AAA Agentur
Executive director, Swiss Association of Folk Costumes

Law

FRANÇOISE KÖNIG GERNY, Basel
Co-head of Legal Services, Department of Economic, Social and Environmental Affairs, Canton of Basel-Stadt

Politics

CHARLES BEER, Chêne-Bourg
President of Pro Helvetia, former councillor of state, Canton of Geneva

Cultural studies

MARIE-THÉRÈSE BONADONNA, La Chaux-de-Fonds
Cultural delegate, Club 44

As at 31 December 2018

SECRETARIAT

Management

The management oversees and directs the Secretariat (head office). It is responsible for strategy implementation, prepares the business to be discussed by the Board of Trustees and implements the latter's decisions. Its members are elected by the Board of Trustees.

Director

PHILIPPE BISCHOF

Cultural Promotion

ANDREAS MOOS,
Head of [Cultural Promotion](#) →

Programmes

MURIELLE PERRITAZ,
Head of [Programmes](#) →

Resources

MELANIE HÄCHLER,
Head of Resources, until 31 August 2018
PHILIPPE BISCHOF,
Head of Resources, ad interim since
1 September 2018

Communications

SABINA SCHWARZENBACH,
Head of Communications

As at 31 December 2018

→ Cultural promotion

The Cultural promotion sector processes funding applications, develops stimulus programmes, implements promotional activities and provides expert advice. It consists of several divisions, each specialising in a particular discipline:

FELIZITAS AMMANN, Head of Dance
MARIANNE BURKI, Head of Visual Arts
ANDRI HARDMEIER, Head of Music
MYRIAM PRONGUÉ, Head of Theatre
(absent, replaced by FELIZITAS AMMANN)
ANGELIKA SALVISBERG, Head of Literature
and Society

→ Programmes

The Programmes sector is responsible for managing the offices abroad and for coordinating studio and other residencies. It devises exchange programmes that develop new networks abroad for Swiss cultural practitioners, and launches stimulus programmes aimed at new fields of cultural promotion.

GAUTIER CHIARINI, Head of [offices abroad](#) →
and exchange programmes, until 30 September
2018
MURIELLE PERRITAZ, Head of [offices abroad](#) →
and exchange programmes, ad interim since
1 October 2018
SYLVAIN GARDEL, Head of special focus «Culture
& Business»
JASPER WALGRAVE, Head of programme
«COINCIDENCIA – Swiss & South American Cultural
Exchanges»

→ Offices abroad

Pro Helvetia promotes Switzerland's international cultural exchange through its network of offices abroad. These include its liaison offices and the Swiss Cultural Centre in Paris, which it runs.

ANNA ARUTYUNOVA, Head of Pro Helvetia Moscow
JOSEPH GAYLARD, Head of Pro Helvetia
Johannesburg
AKSHAY PATHAK, Head of Pro Helvetia New Delhi
DALIA SULEIMAN, Head of Pro Helvetia Cairo
SYLVIA XU, until 31 July 2018
YUXI (LUCY) LU, since 1 August 2018
Head of Pro Helvetia Shanghai
JEAN-PAUL FELLE and OLIVIER KAESER,
until 30 September 2018
JEAN-MARC DIÉBOLD, since 1 October 2018
Head of the Centre culturel suisse de Paris

Further details on Secretariat staff are available at
WWW.PROHELVETIA.CH

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

The Committee of Experts consists of 13 members, each specialised in a particular discipline. It assesses funding applications and Pro Helvetia initiatives for amounts in excess of CHF 50 000, as well as multi-year support agreements. It also advises the Secretariat on specific issues.

The Board of Trustees elects the members of the Committee of Experts for a four-year term of office. Each member may be re-elected once.

Classical music

PETER KRAUT, deputy head, department of music, Bern University of the Arts

Cultural studies

WALTER LEIMGRUBER, professor in cultural anthropology, University of Basel

Dance, German-speaking Switzerland

CARENA SCHLEWITT, director, Kaserne Basel

Dance, French-speaking Switzerland

VÉRONIQUE FERRERO DELACOSTE, director, far°, Festival des arts vivants, Nyon

Design

CHANTAL PROD'HOM, director of mudac, president of the management board of PLATEFORME 10, Lausanne

Digital culture

DANIEL SCIBOZ, designer; lecturer at the Geneva School of Art and Design (HEAD) until 31 May 2018

Jazz

CHRISTOPH MERKI, musician; professor at the Zurich University of the Arts

Literature, French-speaking

THOMAS HUNKELER, president of the Committee of Experts, professor of French literature, University of Fribourg

Literature, German-speaking

CORINA CADUFF, specialist in literature and cultural studies, professor at the Bern University of the Arts

Literature, Italian-speaking

CRISTINA FOGLIA, journalist and cultural mediator, Lugano

Theatre, German-speaking Switzerland

UTE HAEBERBURG, director, Theater Chur

Theatre, French-speaking Switzerland

ROBERTO BETTI, director, CCN-Théâtre du Pommier, Neuchâtel

Visual arts

FELICITY LUNN, vice-president of the Committee of Experts, director, Art center Pasquart, Biel/Bienne

As at 31 December 2018

INDEPENDENT EXPERTS

In addition to the Committee of Experts, independent experts also advise the Secretariat and serve on various juries. Independent experts are appointed by the Pro Helvetia Board of Trustees for a four-year term of office and may be re-elected once.

Architecture

VALÉRIE JOMINI, architect, jomini & zimmermann architekten, Zurich

Classical music

ISABELLE MILLI, professor of art and music education, University of Geneva

Computer games

MARC BODMER, journalist, Zurich

Contemporary circus

SANDRO LUNIN, artistic director, Kaserne Basel, Basel

Contemporary theatre

EVA-MARIA BERTSCHY, dramaturg, Bern/Berlin

Cultural outreach

FRANZISKA DÜRR, responsible for cultural mediation at the Kunsthhaus Aargau, head of cultural outreach network, Kuverum, Aarau

Cultural studies

THOMAS ANTONIETTI, ethnologist; conservator, Lötschentaler Museum, Kippel

Dance, performance

ANNE DAVIER, director, Association pour la danse contemporaine, Geneva

Design

FRÉDÉRIC DEDELLEY, Product Designer ACCD(E), Zurich
ADRIEN ROVERO, industrial designer, Renens
LILLA WICKI, fashion and textile designer, Zurich

Folk dance

RENAUD ALBASINI, folk dance expert; artistic director, Festival international folklorique d'Octodure, Riddes

Folk music

JOHANNES RÜHL, senior research associate in musicology, Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts; artistic director, Festival Alpentöne, Altdorf

Folk theatre

BARBARA SCHLUMPF, stage director, Uznach

Interactive media

ERINROSE SULLIVAN, marketing consultant, Aubonne

Literature, German-speaking

CHRISTIANE SCHMIDT, freelance editor
MARTIN ZINGG, literary critic, journalist and writer, Basel

Literature, French-speaking

ANNE PITTELOUD, literary critic, Geneva
ISABELLE RÜF, literary critic, La Vraconnaz, Sainte-Croix (VD)

Literature, Italian-speaking

FABIO PUSTERLA, author and literary translator, Lugano
LORENZO TOMASIN, professor of Romance philology and history of the Italian language, University of Lausanne

Literature, Romansh-speaking

RICO VALÄR, professor of Romansh literature and culture, University of Zurich

Music theatre

LAURA BERMAN, dramaturg and curator; director of opera, Theater Basel

Offices abroad

ELVIRA DYANGANI OSE, lecturer, department of visual cultures, Goldsmiths University London; responsible for Southern Africa
LEÏLA EL-WAKIL, lecturer, history of architecture and urbanism; responsible for the Arab region
WASEEM HUSSAIN, head of India Desk and manager of Leading House South Asia & Iran, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Pfaffhausen; responsible for India and South-East Asia
MICHAEL VONPLON, cultural manager, Zurich; responsible for China

Photography

PIERRE FANTYS, former professor, ECAL, Lausanne
ULRIKE MEYER STUMP, lecturer, Zurich University of the Arts
LUCIANO RIGOLINI, photographer and artist, Lugano

Pop music

NICOLAS JULLIARD, musician and journalist, Cully
Theatre, Italian-speaking Switzerland
GIORGIO THOENI, journalist and theatre critic, Purascha

Translation

JÜRGEN JAKOB BECKER, director, Deutscher Übersetzerfonds; curator, Literarisches Colloquium

Visual arts

RAFFAEL DÖRIG, director, Kunsthhaus Langenthal
CATHÉRINE HUG, curator, Kunsthhaus Zürich
BORIS MAGRINI, curator, Haus der elektronischen Künste Basel, Basel
DIDIER RITTENER, artist, Lausanne; lecturer at Geneva School of Art and Design (HEAD)

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