

Landesmuseum Zürich.

Swiss homes & furnishings

From the 25 June 2010

A new permanent exhibition at the National Museum Zurich

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«Swiss homes & furnishings» at the Landesmuseum Zurich

Following on from the installation of an exhibition in the museum's station wing last year, the west wing is also set to host a permanent exhibition: «Swiss homes & furnishings». The exhibition presents interiors and furniture from the museum's own collection. At its core are the reconstructed period rooms that helped establish the museum's international reputation. Swiss furniture from the 20th century is on display in the spaces in front of the rooms.

The eleven panelled period rooms at the Landesmuseum Zurich were installed in 1898 with a view to presenting Swiss craftsmanship and exemplary home decor. Period rooms are rooms that have been transferred from their original location and reconstructed within a museum. The Landesmuseum Zurich features rooms from, among other places, Fraumünster Abbey and Oetenbach Monastery, as well as a stateroom from the Palazzo Pestalozzi in Castelvetro, the parlour from the Rosenberg house in Stans, the living room from Schloss Wiggen and a reconstructed monastery apothecary. The current presentation focuses on the rooms' craftsmanship and narrative elements. The new lighting scheme illuminates things which were previously hidden: Amusing fables, white elephants, cheeky nudes, and many an impressive dragon are all there in the Gothic rooms waiting to be discovered. In the Renaissance and Baroque rooms the emphasis has been placed mainly on the theme of wealth and representation. In the bourgeois residences of the 20th century, wealth and status are revealed less by a room's architecture than by the furniture it contains. People are prepared to spend money on artistically crafted individual pieces of furniture made from the finest tropical wood, or to decorate their homes with design icons. The exhibition «Swiss homes & furnishings» makes it clear that people's needs appear to have remained the same from the Middle Ages to the modern-day apartment. It is merely the furniture and rooms that are adapted to the prevailing conditions.

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Scenography: atelier oi-sa, La Neuveville

Audio Guide

For more detailed information on the Historic Rooms, audio guides are available at the Welcome Desk.

Publication accompanying the exhibition: pocket guide «Swiss homes & furnishings».

A guide to the exhibition with examples of exhibits. 84 pp., in colour and with numerous illustrations, available in German, English, French and Italian. CHF 5.00

Guided tours

Bookings: fourteen days in advance.

Guided tours are possible outside the museum's opening hours.

Duration: 1 hour. Information and booking:

T. +41 (0)44 218 65 04 | fuehrungen@snm.admin.ch (Mo – Fr 9.00 – 12.00)

All media texts and a selection of images can be downloaded from the homepage at www.landesmuseum.ch under «Presse».

Please contact us if you have any further questions

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