Zeitschrift: Annual report / Swiss National Library
Herausgeber: Swiss National Library
Band: 101 (2014)

Rubrik: Prints and Drawings Department

Nutzungsbedingungen
Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Mehr erfahren

Conditions d'utilisation
L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. En savoir plus

Terms of use
The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. Find out more

Download PDF: 09.03.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, https://www.e-periodica.ch

Prints and Drawings Department

Barely a year after it was acquired, the archive of Serge Stauffer has been catalogued and is available to researchers. In the first of three exhibitions on artists' books, the Prints and Drawings Department (PDD) again presents one of its collections, after a break lasting a number of years.

Artists' books

The PDD is conducting the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) research project "Artists and Books (1880–2015). Switzerland as a Cultural Platform" in conjunction with the University of Lausanne. Running from 2013 to 2016, it involves a scientific appraisal of the artists' books in the holdings of the NL and other national and international collections. For the first time, it presents a complete overview of the Swiss artists' book, examining it as an entity and offering a clear definition of the term.

During the term of the project, the topic will be addressed once a year in an exhibition and an academic conference. The first of these, both entitled *Unikat–Unikum,* analysed the paradoxical phenomenon of the unique artists' book as extreme manifestation of a genre and a form of artistic creativity.

A selection of artists' books showing the breadth of artistic engagement with the medium was added to the collection.[28]

Collection

Cataloguing of the archive of Serge Stauffer, which was acquired by the PDD in 2013, was completed in the SNSF project "Serge Stauffer – ein Vorreiter von Kunst als Forschung" ('Serge Stauffer – A Pioneer of Art as Research'), thus making it available to researchers just a year after its arrival. The project is a prime example of collaboration between research and archiving. The documents were processed by researchers from the Zurich University of the Arts in the NL in accordance with our requirements and an academic inventory compiled.[29]

To complement Stauffer's archive, the PDD acquired his correspondence with André Thomkins. The Federal Archives of Historic Monuments (FAHM) received the photographic archive of St. George's Abbey museum.[30] Ingest of the archive of Emil Zbinden was completed. Thanks to the extensive preparatory work undertaken by his family, the graphic plates are already available online. A further key cataloguing project involved the photographic archive of Rudolf Zinggeler; over 10 000 photos from it have been processed and can be searched for in HelveticArchives.

User Services

The number of requests for information and research rose from 891 in 2013 to 937 in 2014. For the first time, information on users' interests was gathered. Postcards (201 requests), art (193), historic monuments (144) and history (67) proved to be the most interesting topics. The most frequently requested collections were the Poster Collection (253), the FAHM Photographic Collection (218), the FAHM files (91) and the Prints and Drawings (72).

The NL's cooperation with Wikimedia Switzerland enabled the first high-resolution images from the PDD to be made available to a broad public on Wikimedia Commons; they included images from the Gugelmann collection of "Kleinmeister" and the original plans for Zurich main station by Jakob Friedrich Wanner.[31]

Eduard Spelterini (1852–1931) was a pioneer of aerial photography. His photographs form part of the Photoglob-Wehrli collection, which has been in the NL since 1974. They are now available in high resolution on Wikimedia Commons. Top: Aiguille verte (Montblanc), between 1883 and 1923. Centre: The Pyramids at Giza,1904. Bottom: Copenhagen, between 1883 and 1923.

28 New acquisitions see p. 10.
29 All the catalogued fonds mentioned can be found in www.nb.admin.ch/helveticarchives
30 See p. 10.
31 https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Media_contributed_by_the_Swiss_National_Library