

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 9 (1982)
Heft: 4

Inhaltsverzeichnis

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Marriage of a Swiss woman

A Swiss woman wishing to retain her Swiss nationality on marrying a foreign national *must* make a declaration in writing to that effect, *before the marriage*, on a form obtainable from the Swiss diplomatic and consular missions abroad.

Fanfare, speeches and a warm atmosphere characterized this big premiere. Our Swiss artists, coming from all parts of the world, were really honored on this day. Promoted by a noteworthy committee of patrons, a large number of friends and a large audience from home and abroad assembled to admire the displayed works, to make contacts and to renew friendships. Following an introduction by Mr. Claude Mauler, the President of the Organization Committee, Mr. Louis Rossier, the Municipal President of Denges, and Mr. René Retornaz, Central President of the New Helvetic Society, greeted those, who, through their patronage, had graced this first exhibition in Switzerland of Swiss painters abroad. The painter Roland Zahnd, the artistic organizer of the exhibition, spoke on behalf of the Organization Committee. He described the aim of this exhibition as establishing contacts with Swiss painters abroad. He expressed sincere thanks to the authorities for their moral support of this project.

At the same time he expressed regret that this first exhibition had to be limited to figurative painting, and that abstract painters and sculptors, who deserved to have their works displayed, could not be considered.

One is already concentrating one's efforts on the second biennale of 1984. As the success of this opening has shown, the future looks promising. We therefore hope for even greater support from our authorities so that all our painters who deserve the name can take part in the next exhibition.

Mr. Pierre Favre, Vice President of the Alliance culturelle romande, then introduced the 37 artists, who has been chosen by the jury presided over by Mr. Jacques-Edmond Berger. Someone once said «art is the expression of the highest and most vital of life», and like mankind, art knows no limits. It is the only universal language, and the pictorial language as we see it today in the works from Senegal, Mexico, Peru, Reunion, Canada, Germany, France and ten other countries, communicates to us in the same way.

On behalf of the artists present, Mr. Michel Cevey, painter and graphic artist in Frankfurt (Germany), expressed his delight in being able to reach the public in his homeland. «This exhibition is taking place in a village because it is the result of private initiative. A wish was uttered, and we fulfilled it because we were aware of the importance of this wish. We took the first step to show the way and

Christophe Turnau «Ghost town» (Italy)

