



Zentrum Paul Klee
Bern

Founded by
Maurice E. and Martha Müller
and the heirs of Paul Klee

Media release
11 April 2024

Brasil! Brasil! The Birth of Modernism
7.9.2024–5.1.2025



Brazil in Venice, Bern and London

The 2024 Venice Biennale is linked to Brazil on several levels. From 7 September 2024, the Zentrum Paul Klee is devoting to the country the large-scale exhibition *Brasil! Brasil! The Birth of Modernism*, which is organised in collaboration with the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

As the first curator based in the southern hemisphere, Adriano Pedrosa is curating the 60th International Art Exhibition. Pedrosa is the director of the Museu de Arte de São Paulo. It is from the holdings of this museum that the Zentrum Paul Klee is being loaned several masterpieces for its major autumn exhibition *Brasil! Brasil! The Birth of Modernism*. Six of the artists of whom works are being shown in the exhibition are also represented in the Biennale.

Brasil! Brasil! The Birth of Modernism will be on display in Bern from 7 September 2024 to 5 January 2025. The exhibition will then travel to the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

About the exhibition

At the beginning of the 20th century, Brazil was a young nation in search of its own identity. The population was made up of different indigenous groups, former slaves, colonists and migrants from the whole of Europe and Japan. A great variety of cultures met in this context. Art was in a state of upheaval too, and artists were looking for their own modern artistic expressive forms. Their references were the European avant-garde – including Paul Klee – and their own indigenous and Afro-Brazilian cultures.

The exhibition at the Zentrum Paul Klee shows various ways in which Brazilian artists developed their own modern pictorial languages. Alongside works by ten artists it presents an introduction to formative political and economic events as well as milestones in the country's literature, music, design and architecture.

Exhibited artists:

Tarsila do Amaral (1886–1973)*
Anita Malfatti (1889–1964)*
Lasar Segall (1891–1957)
Alfredo Volpi (1896–1988)*
Vicente do Rego Monteiro (1899–1970)
Flávio de Carvalho (1899–1973)
Candido Portinari (1903–1962)*
Djanira da Motta e Silva (1914–1979)*
Rubem Valentim (1922–1991)*
Geraldo de Barros (1923–1998)

* exhibited at the Venice Biennale

Opening

The opening of the exhibition will take place on
Friday, 6 September 2024, from 6 pm.
Admission to the exhibition is free on this evening.

Curators

Fabienne Eggelhöfer, Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, and Roberta Saraiva Coutinho, São Paulo, with Adrian Lock, Royal Academy of Arts, London

Cooperation

The exhibition is organised by the Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern in collaboration with the Royal Academy of Arts, London, where it will be on display from 28 January until 21 April 2025.

Concert

On Saturday, 21 September 2024 at 6 pm, a Bossa Nova concert with Jenny Chi & ChiBossa will take place at the Zentrum Paul Klee in the context of the exhibition.

Media preview

We cordially invite you to the media preview with curator Fabienne Eggelhöfer on **Thursday, 5 September 2024 at 10 am at the Zentrum Paul Klee.**

Please register via press@zpk.org.

Contact

Martina Witschi, Communication & Media relations
press@zpk.org, +41 31 328 09 93

Individual visit of the exhibition

We are looking forward to your individual visit to the exhibition. Admission to all exhibitions at the Zentrum Paul Klee is free for media representatives with a valid press card. Please fill in the digital accreditation form which you can either access via zpk.org/press or by screening the QR-Code before your visit.

Download press images:

zpk.org/press

All copyrights are reserved. The complete caption must be used and the artwork reproduced as illustrated. It is only permitted to reproduce the images in conjunction with coverage of the exhibition *Brasil! Brasil! The Dawn of Modernity*.



01

Djanira da Motta e Silva
Três orixás, 1966

Oil on canvas
130,4 x 195,5 cm

Collection of the Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, purchased by the Governo do Estado de São Paulo, 1969

© Instituto Pintora Djanira



02

Lasar Segall
Mulato II, um 1924

Oil on canvas
64,3 x 45,5 cm

Private collection



03

Flávio de Carvalho
Ascensão definitiva de Cristo, 1932

Oil on canvas
75,5 x 62 cm

Collection of the Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, purchased by the Governo do Estado de São Paulo, 1969



04

Tarsila do Amaral
Povoação I, 1952

Oil on canvas
75,5 x 100 cm

Private collection

© Tarsila do Amaral S/A



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA
Federal Office of Culture FOC

PRESS OFFICE
+41 31 328 09 93
PRESS@ZPK.ORG

ZENTRUM PAUL KLEE
MONUMENT IM FRUCHTLAND 3
3006 BERN