Special Exhibitions

See Who We Are | until 5 April
100 Objects from the Museum Collection

At Your Own Risk | 29 May until spring 2023
About the Risky Desire for Safety

Karl Sillaber and C4 | 26 June until 9 January 2022
“Neues Bauen“ or New Ways of Building
in Tyrol and Vorarlberg

Core Exhibitions

buchstäblich vorarlberg
Insights into the Collection

Cosmopolitan City or ...?
Brigantium in the 1st Century A.D.

ganznah | until 9 May
Touching Stories from Everyday Life

vorarlberg. ein making-of | until 9 January
An Exhibition on the History of Vorarlberg

Exhibitions in the Atrium

Shutdown | until 28 February
Vorarlberg and the Corona-Virus

2000 m above Sea Level | 27 March until 27 June
Vorarlberg, Silvretta and Art

Nino Malfatti | 17 July until 3 October
By and Large

Heinz Greissing | 23 October until 30 January 2022
His Last Paintings
Exhibition in the Event Hall on the First Floor

19 Nativity Scenes for the Museum
11 December until 9 January

🏠 Extra-mural Exhibitions | Co-operation

Galerie allerArt and Galerie kukuphi, Bludenz
Art Acquisitions Made by Local Government in 2020
25 June until 5 August

Werkraum Bregenzerwald, Andelsbuch
Werkraum Depot
A Study Collection of Contemporary
Craftsmanship/Design

Firma Metzler naturhautnah, Egg
Visit of the House Spirits
Exhibits from the Collection of the vorarlberg museum

Lechmuseum, Lech
The Sound of Lech
until March

Museum Großes Walsertal, Sonntag
The Painter Otmar Burtscher 1894–1966
1 May until 10 October

Kunstforum Montafon, Schruns
SilvrettAtelier 2020
17 September until 17 October

DOCK 20, Lustenau
Gesine Probst-Bösch
Zehn Pfeile, ein Herz und eine Seele
13 November until 16 January 2022
See Who We Are
100 Objects from the Museum Collection

Special Exhibition on the Third Floor
until 5 April

Take a tour of the collection exploring 100 objects selected by our curators. Among their “favourite pieces” are the sketchbooks of Bregenzerwald baroque builders, a high-wheel bicycle, a medieval palm Sunday donkey, a “coat of shame” from the prison in Bregenz Oberstadt, medieval works of art, paintings of Angelika Kauffmann and Rudolf Wacker as well as works of contemporary artists.
At Your Own Risk
About the Risky Desire for Safety

Special Exhibition on the Third Floor
29 May until spring 2023

What frightens you? Where do you feel safe? Who or what protects you? The strategies to deal with dangers have changed over time. Our ancestors started to secure slopes and regulate streams and rivers, they founded fire brigades, insurance companies and the police force who have always been, and still are, monitoring compliance with the rules. Meanwhile, the greatest threat to mankind seems to be man himself – climatic disasters, wars, the pandemic. Safety is primarily built on trust – formerly in the good Lord, today in the government. How safe do you feel? Come and explore this exhibition … at your own risk.

With the support of Vorarlberger Landes-Versicherung V. a. G.
Karl Sillaber and C4 “Neues Bauen” or New Ways of Building in Tyrol and Vorarlberg

Special Exhibition on the Fourth Floor
26 June until 9 January 2022

The members of this group “C4 Architekten“ – Max Fohn, Helmut Pfanner, Karl Sillaber and the Tyrolian Friedrich Wengler – are considered the pioneers of the new building style. Their first project, the primary school of Nüziders (1960–63) is a key project of modern school design in Vorarlberg, which was followed by several other new school buildings (Hasenfeld/Lustenau primary school, HAK Bregenz secondary commercial school, Nenzing comprehensive school). The single and multi-family houses, office and industrial buildings as well as indoor and outdoor swimming pools that were built in their common creative period from 1960 until 1979 in Tyrol and Vorarlberg are less well known. These are all important examples of modern architecture, which are shown in the first monographic exhibition on the work of the C4 architects and in the accompanying catalogue. In cooperation with the Architekturzentrum Wien.
Before the first lockdown in mid-March 2020, the vorarlberg museum set off on the process of assiduously gathering material dealing with the topic ‘Vorarlberg and the Corona-Virus’. On our behalf, Sarah Mistura took photographs of the impact of the Corona crisis on people’s lives. The writer Daniela Egger kept a diary about Corona. After it had been published on our website and following calls for collection, we received numerous items – fever diaries, narratives, border passage certificates, masks, embroidered viruses. The museum’s Corona collection is complemented by works purchased from artists focusing on the memorable events of spring 2020.
2000 m above Sea Level
Vorarlberg, Silvretta and Art

Exhibition in the Atrium
27 March until 27 June

In five chapters, the exhibition spans a bridge between “the mountains” – the main focus of the collection – and eight artistic positions created during the “SilvrettAtelier2020”, a two-week art workshop held in the Silvretta mountain range in Montafon. The selected works pick out the mountain as an idol whose inaccessibility is captured, at least in the image. The central themes are places where people long to be, peak victories, but also interference with nature by tourism. The exhibition features views of well-known Alpinists in the mountains, classical Land art projects, humorous reproductions of famous peaks as “mountains to go” or photographic panoramas of our domesticated high-Alpine landscape. The exhibits are documented in a catalogue.

Gerhard Klocker, untitled, from the series “NOVA”, 2020
Nino Malfatti
By and Large

Exhibition in the Atrium
17 July until 3 October

For 35 years, the Tyrolean artist Nino Malfatti has been painting and drawing nothing else but mountains. His works are not suited for tourism promotion. The artist, who was born in 1940 in Innsbruck and has already participated in the Kassel Documenta, is not concerned with the idyllic scenery. He is interested in the changing light conditions and shadow projections, the spatial-atmospheric impact of the mountains. On his hikes, the excellent mountaineer, in a traditional old-fashioned manner, sketches and takes photographs of the mountains’ vaults, structures, outcrops, colours and rock formations. Based on these sketches and photographs, he paints the landscapes in his Berlin studio. 90 mountain views from Tyrol and Vorarlberg, some of them large-sized, are shown in the largest Malfatti exhibition ever, extending over the atrium’s total height of 23 meters.
During the last years of his life, the Atlantic Ocean in southern Spain and its surroundings nearby count among the central artistic themes of the Vorarlberg painter Heinz Greissing. He created intensive images of the wild sea – in the colours of the light changing from morning to night, along with the rising and falling of the tide, and the foaming waves from greyish-green to almost black during a storm. Greissing depicts the ever-changing light conditions and constant movement in the stripe paintings that are typical of him. The exhibition also features large-sized paintings without stripes, which radiate the calm and seemingly endless expanse of the Atlantic Ocean. If strong winds prevented him from painting on the beach, the artist turned to the pines and Scotch pines in the nearby surroundings. The sea, the trees, his last paintings – they all pay tribute to a great painter who died in May 2020 at the age of 87.
Insights into the Collection
Permanent Exhibition on the Second Floor

The museum’s collection comprises close to 160,000 objects from the fields of archaeology, art, ethnology and history. The exhibition showcases very important and also less important objects from the museum’s rich holdings in alphabetical order. It starts with the letter “A” for “angelica-mad,” showing engravings by the artist Angelika Kauffmann, and ends with the letter “Z” for “zahla” (to pay), which features the hoard of coins found at Sonderberg Castle. In between schnapps glasses, self-portraits by Edmund Kalb, pommels, the estate of Fritz Krcal, priest’s vestments, herbariums …

Cosmopolitan City or ...?

Brigantium in the 1st Century A.D.
Exhibition on the Third Floor

A forum the size of a football pitch, an ancient Roman spa, the craft and trade quarter at the Tschermakgarten in Bregenz – the public and private buildings of Brigantium dating from the first century A.D. all fire up your imagination. Was Bregenz a city during the time of the Romans? There is a lot to suggest that it was, but no clear evidence to confirm this. Following the much praised exhibition Romans or...?, Cosmopolitan City or ...? is all about living together in Brigantium. Who used this place? Who lived here? Did they have an administration as well as a fiscal and social system? How was the economic and religious life organised? Based on the most recent scientific findings and archaeological finds, the exhibition invites museum visitors to speculate in a well-informed manner about Brigantium, its residents and visitors.
A trapeze artist from Feldkirch who performed at the world-famous Sarrasani Circus; a nurse who collects all kinds of nursing utensils; an Imam who does ritual washing of the dead. These far-apart worlds and stories have one thing in common: They all involve touch. Lips, hands, fists – fragments of narratives and memories open up a panorama of popular customs surrounding touch. Touch can extend across borders and it can provoke, it can be experienced as threatening or pleasurable, it can stand both for basic trust and profession. “close to heart”: a rulebook exploring touch – need, taboo and refusal.

How did Vorarlberg become what it seems to be like today? The exhibition vorarlberg. a making-of questions the past and present of a region which, over the course of its eventful history, has been subject to various cultural, political and economic influences. It does not tell ‘the’ story but should be seen as more of a ‘history laboratory’ which utilises topics such as migration, identity and belonging to stimulate contemplation and debate on Vorarlberg’s past and present.
Colours/Lights/Lake
Light Installation by Miriam Prantl in the Staircase

The Vorarlberg artist Miriam Prantl created the light installation Colours/Lights/Lake for the staircase featuring a gentle play of colours that reflects different light atmospheres at Lake Constance. The railing is equipped with LED strip lights whose upward light movement corresponds to the programming of seven light boxes in the stairwell. Slowing down, calming down, contemplation – the effect of the colours and the light attune visitors for the exhibition.

19 Nativity Scenes for the Museum

Exhibition in the Event Hall on the First Floor
11 December until 9 January

Nativity scene lanterns, snow-covered nativity scenes, oriental or Alpine nativity scenes – nativity scene construction is highly popular in Vorarlberg. The vorarlberg museum has documented this folk art with the support of the state’s association, the Vorarlberger Landeskrippenverband: The 19 nativity construction groups active in the federal state built scenes especially for the museum – which are now shown in the festive atmosphere of the event hall. In cooperation with the Vorarlberger Landeskrippenverband.
Home Sweet Home

Intervention in the Showcases on the Second Floor

What we playfully imagined when we were kids becomes a very real issue later: the idea of our own four walls – their location, dimension, appearance, furnishing. Most of us take a home for granted and do not give fundamental thought to it – something that might change when we are forced to stay at home, and even more so if, all of a sudden, you no longer have a roof over your head. This small exhibition in five showcases asks questions, in passing, concerning the ideal home, based on a selection of historical doll houses and works made by Vorarlberg artists.
Opening Times

Tuesday to Sunday 10.00 – 18.00
Thursday 10.00 – 20.00
Closed on Mondays (except public holidays)

Eintritt

Adults 9 euros, reduced 7 euros
Annual pass 38 euros, reduced 31 euros
Combined ticket vm and KUB (Kunsthaus Bregenz) 17 euros, reduced 14 euros and 12 euros for under 27s
Groups of 15 or more 7 euros per person
Admission is free for children and under 19s

Guided tours can be booked by sending an e-mail to kulturvermittlung@vorarlbergmuseum.at or calling +43 (0)5574 46050 522

Please observe the current Covid rules!
www.vorarlbergmuseum.at/besuch

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With the support of

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