



FONDATION  
GANDUR  
POUR L'ART

Press release

*Arts / Exhibition*

## **THE FONDATION GANDUR POUR L'ART PARTNER OF THE RESTORED MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS IN DIJON**

*Geneva, 17 May 2019* - **The Fondation Gandur pour l'Art (FGA) has signed a long-term partnership with the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Dijon. After completion of a huge two-phase renovation project - from 2008 to 2013 and from 2015 to 2019 - the museum has now reopened all its galleries to the public. A participant in this major French cultural event, the FGA is lending eight of its works to feature in the museum's new permanent display for a period of five years. This partnership is the second of its kind for the foundation, following on from the one concluded in 2015 with the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid.**

At a time when the French institution is celebrating its reopening and when its regional influence is expanding with the new Burgundy-Franche-Comté region, a partnership with a Swiss foundation promotes cross-border exchanges and allows reaching out to a wider public. In light of the observation that the museum's collections and those of the FGA interestingly complement each other, the French institution approached the foundation to set up long-term loans for selected works.

### **Eight works from the FGA that echo the museum's permanent collections**

These pieces from the FGA are now incorporated into the new permanent display in galleries progressing from the Renaissance to the 21<sup>st</sup> century and inaugurated on 17 May 2019: four from the fine arts collection and four from the decorative arts collection.

The museum has an important collection of paintings by the Second School of Paris, represented in particular by Maria Helena Vieira da Silva, Nicolas de Staël, Alfred Manessier, Jean Bertholle, Jean Messagier and Jean Degottex, complemented now by the four paintings lent by the FGA. These are iconic works by Jean Bazaine, Pierre Soulages, Gérard Schneider and Georges Mathieu. Together, they show the rich and diverse pictorial approaches of the Parisian avant-garde who revolutionized abstract art between 1945 and 1960.

As for the decorative arts, the four objects on loan are shown in a gallery devoted to late 16<sup>th</sup> century European Mannerism, bringing together paintings and objects from this period. Two clocks and a watch grace a showcase of timekeeping instruments that illustrates their stylistic and technical development. A boxwood comb, placed in a display case dedicated to women's toilette during the Renaissance, is set in front of *La Dame à sa toilette*, one of the jewels in the paintings collection of the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Dijon.

At the end of the initial five-year period, other works from the FGA will be able to replace these first objects in the presentation, now designed to be semi-permanent and evolving, of the museum's collections.



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**About the Fondation Gandur pour l'Art:**

The Fondation Gandur pour l'Art was founded in Geneva by Swiss art collector and entrepreneur Jean Claude Gandur in 2010 with the aim of conserving, enriching and exhibiting the collections developed for over 40 years.

Its mission includes making the collections available to museums, the academic world and the general public. Reflecting Jean Claude Gandur's conviction that culture should be accessible to all, the Foundation encourages access to art through temporary exhibitions, loans, online access and, more recently, the publication of reference catalogues. The Foundation has also developed a number of partnerships, notably with the National Museum Centre for Arts Reina Sofía (Spain). The Foundation has been a member of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) since 2013 and of the Swiss Museums Association since 2019, and strictly adheres to the code of ethics established by the ICOM.

The Foundation's collections cover four distinct areas: an archaeology collection with over 1,200 works of art from Ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome and the Near East; a collection with more than 900 European paintings, mostly post-war, considered as one of the most important for the period in private ownership; a decorative arts collection with over 400 pieces, including decorative objects, furniture and pieces of art from the twelfth to the eighteenth century; and an ethnology collection with close to 400 artefacts from Latin America and Oceania.

[www.fg-art.org](http://www.fg-art.org)

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