

A FEEL FOR OUTSTANDING ART THE FONDATION BEYELER'S 20-YEAR SUCCESS STORY

On October 18, 1997, the Fondation Beyeler opened its doors for the first time. To celebrate its twentieth anniversary, the Foundation is now releasing *Fondation Beyeler: The Collection – It Might Turn Out Well if the Sunshine Lasts...*, a richly illustrated publication that allows the artists in the collection to speak for themselves.

Berlin, November 21, 2017 – The collection of classic modern and contemporary art that the gallerists and collectors Ernst and Hildy Beyeler have carefully assembled since the 1950s was given a home in 1997 in the Renzo Piano-designed museum in Riehen, near Basel. For more than two decades now they have been on display in alternating presentations at the Fondation Beyeler, along with later acquisitions, gifts, and long-term loans. To celebrate its twentieth birthday the museum, in cooperation with Hatje Cantz, is publishing a richly illustrated catalogue of the collection this year. What's special about this: the artists speak for themselves in this book.

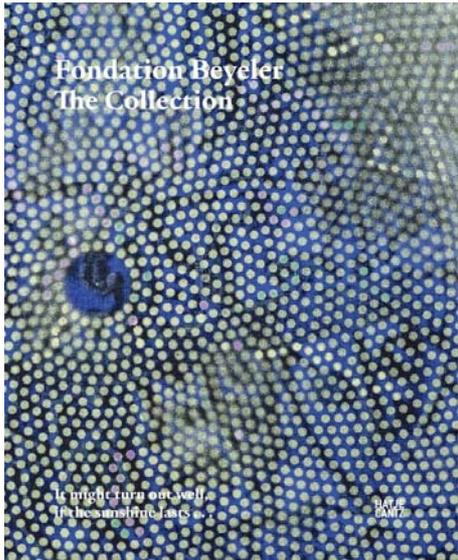
Because of this, the book is more of a narrative than a catalogue, consisting of a collection of pictures of the artworks and excerpts from original texts by the artists. Hence, the book is both historical and “contemporary” at the same time, since the voices of the artists allow them to be present.

Today, we tend to forget that all of the works of art from the past that hang in museums were also once “contemporary” in their own time periods. Often, the only advocates for their work were initially the artists themselves, who were called upon to think about their own work and publicize it by either talking or writing about it. The letters, journal entries, manifestos, and excerpts from lectures or interviews that were selected for this catalogue are all very different from each other, and yet they are all connected directly to the works they discuss. Whether random or anecdotal, precise or targeted, all of the texts make a statement about the artists' work, as well as what they thought about and hoped for, what they were looking for, or how a work was created.

For instance, Monet wrote to his wife that he was worried that the weather might change, thus informing us that the success of his paintings depended upon the weather. In his ultra-cool, yet ostentatious manner, Andy Warhol showed his disinterest in making statements about himself and his art, by saying that he simply had nothing to say—the same attitude that he also took in his art, which sent a clear message that obviously opposed his literal statement.

The catalogue, *Fondation Beyeler. The Collection – It Might Turn Out Well if the Sunshine Lasts...*, links the past and the present. At the same time it creates a sense of curiosity and encourages readers to look forward to the next twenty years.

Featuring works by: Hans Arp, Louise Bourgeois, Paul Cézanne, Edgar Degas, Jean Dubuffet, Wassily Kandinsky, Paul Klee, Kasimir Malevich, Henri Matisse, Piet Mondrian, Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Auguste Rodin, Henri Rousseau, Wolfgang Tillmans, Vincent van Gogh, Jordan Wolfson, and others.



**IT MIGHT TURN OUT WELL, IF THE SUNSHINE LASTS
FONDATION BEYELER. THE COLLECTION**

Ed. Theodora Vischer, Fondation Beyeler,
Riehen/Basel, texts by Gottfried Boehm, Ralph Ubl,
Theodora Vischer u. a., graphic design by Teo
Schifferli

English

2017. 284 pp., 183 ills.

hardcover

24.50 x 30.50 cm

ISBN 978-3-7757-4332-7 [DE]

ISBN 978-3-7757-4333-4 [ENG]

78,00 EUR

ABOUT HATJE CANTZ

Hatje Cantz is a groundbreaking international publishing company specializing in art, architecture, and photography. Since 1945 Hatje Cantz has been using its profound expertise and enthusiasm for craftsmanship to produce and publish books of the highest quality. We currently release around two hundred new titles annually.

Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries, collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION GERD HATJE as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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