



Zentrum Paul Klee
Bern

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

Save the Date

FOKUS: Hamed Abdalla (1917–1985)
27.1.–26.5.2024



Hamed Abdalla (1917–1985) was a pioneer of modern Egyptian art. For the first time in Switzerland, the Zentrum Paul Klee is devoting an exhibition to his work as part of the series FOKUS in a room in the permanent exhibition *Kosmos Klee*.

Egyptian artist Hamed Abdalla (1917–1985) is for the first time exhibited in Switzerland. Abdalla engaged intensively with European modern art and in particular with Paul Klee. From the 1950s, he lived in Copenhagen and Paris and always referred in his work to the hectic political situation of his homeland. Abdalla experimented with various techniques, Arabic calligraphy forming a central point. As an artist of the Hurufiyya movement, which developed the artistic potential of the Arabic alphabet, he invented his own “creative words”, blending abstraction and human forms.

The works of Hamed Abdalla are being shown in the context of the series FOKUS. The room is part of the permanent exhibition *Kosmos Klee. The Collection*, which offers visitors a chronological survey of Klee’s artistic career and presents some seventy works as well as biographical material and items from the archive that are regularly changed.

Opening

The opening of the exhibition will take place on
Friday, 26 January 2024, from 6 pm.
Admission to the exhibition is free on this evening.

Curators

Zamân Books & Curating: Morad Montazami, Madeleine de Colnet

With the support of

Kanton Bern, Burgergemeinde Bern, Bundesamt für Kultur BAK

Media preview

We cordially invite you to the media preview with Fabienne Eggelhöfer and the curating team Morad Montazami and Madeleine de Colnet on **Thursday, 25 January 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

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01

Hamed Abdalla

Les Amants de Shemm Ennessim,
1953

Gouache on silk paper on cardboard
39 x 30 cm

Artist estate

Photo: Emmanuel Littot

© Artist estate



02

Hamed Abdalla

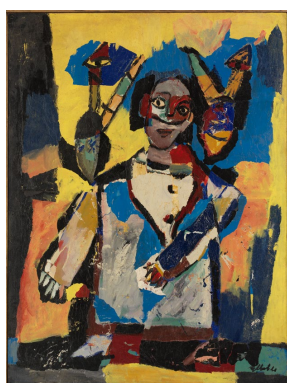
Poem, 1970

Acrylic on canvas
101 x 73 cm

Artist estate

Photo: Emmanuel Littot

© Artist estate



03

Hamed Abdalla

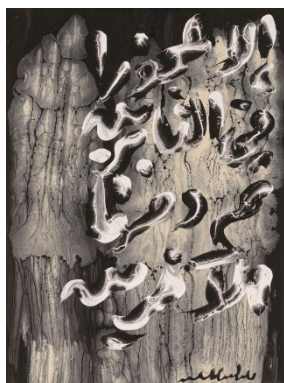
Asfour, 1955

Mixed media on tissue paper and
masonite
130 x 97 cm

Artist estate

Photo: Emmanuel Littot

© Artist estate



04

Hamed Abdalla

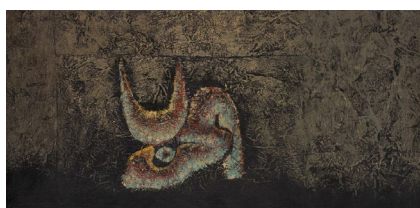
Gens des cavernes, 1975–1976

Acrylic on paper
39,8 x 29,7 cm

Artist estate

Photo: Faouzi Massrali

© Artist estate



05

Hamed Abdalla

Al Harb, 1963

Mixed media on Japanese paper on
Isorel
130 x 250 cm

Artist estate

Photo: Emmanuel Littot

© Artist estate