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CANTON DU VALAIS  
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PRESS KIT

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## **The Valais Art Museum presents "Chi va piano. Slow art with the collections"**

**From 18 May until 10 November 2019**

**The Salon Suisse at the Venice Art Biennale 2019 has given carte blanche to Céline Eidenbenz, director of the Valais Art Museum. In response to the Italian programme devoted to the theme of slowness and titled *s / o w*, the Art Museum will adopt the lunar calendar by exhibiting each month a new work or group of works from its collection. A series of events is planned in Sion, including "Return to Venice" on 19 May for International Museums Day.**

### **The Salon Suisse at the Venice Art Biennale 2019**

Organised by the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia since 2012, the Salon Suisse is held in tandem with the Swiss Pavilion during the Venice Art Biennale. It consists of a series of performances, lectures and cultural events that give an opportunity to experience art in a stimulating atmosphere. All the events take place at the Palazzo Trevisan degli Ulivi over three weekends from September until November (see detailed programme at <https://biennials.ch>).

### ***s / o w* : going slow as a motto**

For the 2019 edition of the Salon Suisse at the Biennale, Pro Helvetia gave carte blanche to Céline Eidenbenz, director of the Valais Art Museum. The theme she has chosen is called *s / o w* and explores the rhythm of creation and its intrinsic slowness. In assuming that slowing down will make for more sensoriness and resist the temptation of productivism, *s / o w* looks into slowness and art through a series of themes that range from idleness to cultural restlessness. To deal with this theme, Céline Eidenbenz has invited personalities from different areas, including artists, art historians, performers, musicians, chefs, choreographers, physicians, etc. Through a participatory programme that takes an interdisciplinary approach, *s / o w* promotes resonance, proximity and conviviality.

### **At the Valais Art Museum, an echo of the programme in Venice**

The exhibition *Chi va piano* offers an opportunity to experience slow art at the Art Museum in Sion. From 18 May until 10 November, the public is invited to immerse itself in the gallery known as *Au Quatrième* ("on the Fourth Floor") to gauge the effect of duration on observation by taking the time for a closer look, pausing and browsing around. The room will present successively ten works to contemplate representing such name artists as Nicolas Faure, François Boson, Sophie Calle, Miquel Barceló, Alexandre Calame and Magdalena Abakanowicz.



### **The collection in tune with the lunar calendar with the artist Marie Velardi**

The work by the Swiss artist Marie Velardi (b. 1977) titled *Luna* was produced especially for this exhibition and is tuned to the lunar clock placed in the room: its one hand makes a complete turn for each lunar cycle. The works are changed according to the lunar calendar, every 29.5 days on the day of the full moon.

### **Contact person**

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**More information on the Salon Suisse at the Venice Art Biennale:** <https://biennials.ch>

**More information on "Chi va piano" at the Valais Art Museum, Sion:**  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

**Media information and photos available at:**  
<https://www.vs.ch/web/culture/infos-medias>