

press release

5 January 2002

Ten Years Galerie Hauser & Wirth

19 January to 2 March 2002

Opening: 18 January 2002, 5 to 7 pm

With its first exhibition in the New Year, the Galerie Hauser & Wirth is celebrating its tenth anniversary. This group show will present works of all the artists represented by the gallery: Louise Bourgeois, Dan Graham, Mary Heilmann, Eva Hesse, Richard Jackson, On Kawara, Rachel Khedoori, Guillermo Kuitca, Paul McCarthy, John McCracken, Raymond Pettibon, Jason Rhoades, Pipilotti Rist, Anri Sala, Roman Signer and Diana Thater.

The first location of the gallery, in 1992, was an art nouveau villa in the middle of Zurich. There the partners, Ursula Hauser and Iwan and Manuela Wirth, bought and sold works of art, concentrating on modern art. The splendid rooms were opened to a wider public twice a year, offering exhibitions of sculpture and painting by Joan Miró and mobiles and gouaches by Alexander Calder.

In 1994, the gallery opened additional exhibition rooms (which no longer exist) in the industrial district of Zurich, which was then emerging as a new centre of the city's cultural life. This move indicated a shift in focus towards contemporary art. The gallery's new preoccupations resulted in shows like Paik's "Jardin illuminé", "10 Years Parkett – 61 Artists' Editions" and two exhibitions of the work of Gerhard Richter.

In 1996, the gallery moved entirely into a former brewery building in the industrial district. This marked the start of a regular programme of changing public exhibitions and the beginning of the collaboration with the artists represented by the gallery today. Hauser & Wirth see themselves as partners of the artist, offering them organisational assistance and advice and comprehensive support with large-scale projects, most of them outside the gallery's own rooms. The gallery has also recognised the importance of publishing, having a share in the German art book publisher, Oktagon, with Walther König.

1998 saw the gallery joining in partnership with Eva Presenhuber, who opened the Galerie Hauser & Wirth & Presenhuber in the same building. In New York, where Hauser & Wirth had collaborated closely with gallerist David Zwirner since 1992, they opened Zwirner & Wirth on 69th Street.

Page 2 of 2

5 January 2002

Ten Years Galerie Hauser & Wirth

The show, "Ten Years Galerie Hauser & Wirth", is not intended as a nostalgic retrospective of the past ten years, but a snapshot, an overview of the artists represented by the gallery. It offers a view of the wide-ranging programme, uniting as it does personalities and generations of artists as diverse as Louise Bourgeois and Jason Rhoades. Thus, the show may yet evoke a bit of nostalgia as it recalls memories of more than 150 exhibitions, at the gallery or elsewhere, in which Hauser & Wirth were involved.

Gallery hours: Tue–Fri 12–6 pm, Sat 11 am–4 pm

Forthcoming exhibition: Anri Sala, 16 March to 11 May 2002