

**«WITZERLAND» A GUIDE TO SWISS HUMOUR**

2nd April – 13 September 2009

Special exhibition in the Swiss National Museum, Zurich

**PUBLICATION «WITZERLAND»**

The illustrated brochure «WITZERLAND» looks in more detail at the subjects touched on in the exhibition, and various essays discuss the subjects of humour, jokes and satire in Switzerland. How far back in history do joke motifs go? What is the function of a joke in little Switzerland? Is it similar in other countries? In the joint foreword Dr. Andreas Spillmann and Walter Keller comment on the exhibition and on what is «Swiss» in humour in this country. Dr. François de Capitani and Prof. Dr. Ursula Pia Jauch investigate basic questions of philosophy, history, psychology and sociology. The articles by Marlène Sandrin and Marco Ratschiller look at the past and the present of the satirical periodical «Nebelspalter». Marco Ratschiller, editor in chief of «Nebelspalter», analyses the current state of satire. Hanspeter Gschwend writes about satirical cabaret on the radio, Prof. Dr. Alfred Messerli about irony, the comic and humour among children, and Martin Jaeggi about parody, black humour and freedom in the «Bewegig» of the 1980's.

**Contributors**

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The publication «WITZERLAND» is available at the museum shop of the National Museum or can be ordered from: [buchbestellung@slm.admin.ch](mailto:buchbestellung@slm.admin.ch)