

**Una Szeemann: *Continuiamo a tornare in quel luogo***  
July 9 – November 5, 2023

**Martín Soto Climént: *La danza del fiume***  
July 9 – November 5, 2023

Curated by Raphael Gygax

Opening: Saturday, July 8, 2023, 5 pm

## Museo Casa Rusca, Locarno

The Museo Casa Rusca is pleased to announce the opening of two new exhibitions that will be in dialogue with the retrospective of Swiss artist Xanti Schawinsky (1904-1979), who has passed away in Locarno. Open from July 9, 2023, the second floor of the museum will host a solo exhibition by Swiss artist Una Szeemann (\*1975, Locarno), while the underground floor, named Sinopia, will present an exhibition by Mexican artist Martín Soto Climént (\*1977, Mexico City). Both artistic practices are characterized by a strong interest in the “processual” and are thus in the tradition of Schawinsky’s distinctive interest in the processual, which he expressed especially in his paintings.

The Swiss artist **Una Szeemann’s** (b. Locarno, 1975; lives and works in Zurich and Tegna) works are consistently grounded in research drawing on the fields of psychoanalysis—in particular, (auto)hypnosis—biology, anthropology, and their intersections. Probing the interrelationships between the invisible and the visible, the presence and absence of bodies, nature, and imitation, Szeemann investigates their implications for questions of time and process. The exhibition at the Museo Casa Rusca presents a selection of the artist’s works from the past decade, accompanied by a new sculpture created specifically for the exhibition.

Mundane objects such as pantyhose and shoes are the materials out of which the Mexican artist **Martín Soto Climént** (b. Mexico City, 1977; lives and works in Tepoztlán, Mexico) makes his work. Sometimes left unchanged, sometimes minimally modified, they appear in novel constellations as sculptures or sometimes installations in the exhibition space.

These recontextualizations revisit the ideas of Surrealism and probe its relation to the object. In his exhibition at the Museo Casa Rusca, Soto Climént turns the spotlight on one of his most important bodies of work: the *Tights on Canvas* series (2004–). As the title implies, the works feature nylon tights in an effort to take the discourse of expanded painting in a new direction. In addition to a selection of works from this body of work, Soto Climént will create a site-specific installation.

Until November 5, 2023, the exhibition of **Xanti Schawinsky** can also be visited at the Museo Casa Rusca. With a focus on works from the 1960s and 1970s, the Museo Casa Rusca presents a retrospective of the Swiss artist **Alexander “Xanti” Schawinsky** (1904-1979), the first time in over 40 years since his works were last exhibited in Locarno. Schawinsky, who was born in Basel, is a central figure of the Bauhaus, where he created numerous set and costume designs, collages, and photographs. After emigrating to the USA in 1936, in the early 1960s Schawinsky returned to Switzerland, and then divided his time between Ticino and New York until his death. The focus of this exhibition is Schawinsky’s painterly work, which reached its zenith in the 1960s and 1970s. Above all, he explored the potential of process- and performance-based painting. The exhibition presents core works from his various series during this period, such as the *Eclipse* and *Sphere Paintings*, as well as the spectacular *Track Paintings* series, for which the artist drove his car through oil paint and then back and forth across spread canvases.

## Biographies

**Alexander “Xanti” Schawinsky** (born in Basel in 1904, died in Locarno in 1979) was a Swiss-American painter, photographer, and set designer who was one of the most important figures in the Bauhaus. In addition to the avant-garde utopias of the Bauhaus and proto-Happening art, Schawinsky’s work contains numerous links to the main currents of 20<sup>th</sup> century pre- and post-war modernist art in Europe and the United States. Thus, his work can be read as representative of the transatlantic exchange of artistic ideas that arose from the political situation, with a lasting impact on art history.

**Martín Soto Climént** (\*1977, Mexico City) lives and works in Tepoztlán, Mexico. He studied Fine Arts (MFA) and Industrial Design at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). His works have been exhibited in numerous international exhibitions, including at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, Hassel Museum in New York, Kunstmuseum Morsbroich, Kunsthalle Wien, and Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. In 2013, Soto Climént co-founded the art space Lulu in Mexico City with curator Chris Sharp. His works are present in numerous public and private collections.

**Una Szeemann** (\*1975, Locarno) lives and works in Zurich and Tegna. She completed her acting studies in Milan. Her works have been exhibited in numerous international exhibitions, including at Kunsthaus Zürich, Kunsthalle Winterthur, Museo Cantonale d'Arte in Lugano, Kunstmuseum Luzern, Kunstverein Hamburg, Belvedere 21 in Vienna, Venice Biennale, Busan Biennale, Lyon Biennale, and Manifesta 11 in Zurich. She regularly teaches a.o. Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZHdK), Haute École d'Art et de Design in Geneva (HEAD), and other universities.

## Information

<b>Venue</b>	Museo Casa Rusca Piazza Sant'Antonio 1, 6600 Locarno	
<b>Date</b>	July 9 – November 5, 2023 Una Szeemann: <i>Continuiamo a tornare in quel luogo</i> Martín Soto Climént: <i>La danza del fiume</i>	
<b>Inauguration</b>	<b>Saturday, July 8, 2023, 5 pm</b>	
<b>Opening times</b>	Tuesday - Sundays and holidays Closed Mondays +41 (0)91 756 31 85	10am-16.30pm
<b>Charges</b>	Adults OASI/DI benefits Students aged 18 and over Schools and young people aged under 18 Carta Raiffeisen, Museum Pass, ICOM/AMS, VKKS Associazione Amici di Casa Rusca	CHF 15.- CHF 10.- CHF 8.- Free entry
	Tessera domiciliati Locarno, App my Ascona-Locarno Ticino Ticket, Cultural Pass Ascona-Locarno:	Reduced
<b><u>COMBINED TICKET MUSEO CASORELLA-CASTELLO + MUSEO CASA RUSCA</u></b>		
	Full price Reduced OASI/DI and groups Students aged 18 and over	CHF 20 .- CHF 14 .- CHF 12 .-
<b>Reservations</b>	Guided tours for groups  with appointment +41 (0)91 756 31 70/71	CHF 150.- ( I ) CHF 180 .- (D/F/E)

**Bookings** +41 (0)91 756 31 85

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