

# ARMLEDER. holbein

# PRINT! THE FIRST PAGES OF A REVOLUTION

4 JUNE – 31 OCTOBER 2017



# INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE REFORMATION GENEVA

# PRINT !

## THE FIRST PAGES OF A REVOLUTION AN INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION FROM 4 JUNE TO 31 OCTOBER 2017

**Five hundred years ago, the reformer Martin Luther rebelled against his Church, penning 95 theses criticising the sale of indulgences in exchange for salvation. Thanks to the printing press, this dispute within the Church had unexpectedly far-reaching repercussions – and so the Reformation was born! To commemorate this 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the MIR takes a closer look at a technology that both transformed Christianity and changed people's mindsets.**

### 1 FROM 4 JUNE TO 31 OCTOBER

A purpose-built reproduction of a Gutenberg press measuring 3 m tall will be used to hand-print a single large-format copy of the Bible in the 16<sup>th</sup>-century style. Visitors will be able to participate in the process, as each of the 800 pages, from Genesis to the Apocalypse, emerges from the press before being bound on 31 October, the last day of the exhibition. The text is based on a modern French translation by contemporary authors, known as the 'Bayard Bible'.



### 2 CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS

Several well-known contemporary artists – John Armleder, Marc Bauer, Vidya Gastaldon and Mai-Thu Perret – will create original works of art directly on the press, in the footsteps of the great Renaissance illustrators Lucas Cranach and Hans Holbein.

### 3 SEVENTEEN BEST-SELLERS

Best-selling books from the first decades of printing, including rare copies of Luther's translation of the New Testament and Erasmus's *In Praise of Folly*, will illustrate the profound cultural, scientific and religious upheavals that shaped the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. An evocation of German artist Sigmar Polke stained-glass windows for Zurich's Grossmünster Cathedral – an allusion to the reformer Zwingli – as well as an eclectic selection of artworks, will place the anniversary in the context of the Gutenberg Revolution, a key historical moment between the invention of writing and the emergence of the Internet.

### 4 PRINT! EVENTS

The events accompanying the exhibition will include a series of six lectures as well as appearances by public figures, such as Kofi Annan, Klaus Schwab, Geneva State Councillor François Longchamp and comic-book author Zep, who will help print a page of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary Bible by turning the lever on the press.



# CALENDAR

## GUTENBERG TALKS – SOCIÉTÉ DE LECTURE 12.30 P.M.\*\*

**4 May How will the Internet change our lives?**  
With Alexandre Lacroix, editor-in-chief of *Philosophie Magazine*.

**26 Sept. Gutenberg: The hidden facets of a galaxy**  
With Roger Chartier, book historian.

**12 Oct. Who wrote humanity's first text? Who read it?**  
With Clarisse Herrenschmidt, archaeologist and ancient historian.

## LECTURE SERIES MIR 6.00 P.M.\*\*

**8 June Luther: Product or actor of the Reformation?**  
With Pierre Bühler, professor emeritus, University of Zurich.

**21 Sept. Writing the Bible out loud**  
Frédéric Boyer, Olivier Cadiot, Jean Echenoz and Valère Novarina, co-translators of the 'Bayard Bible', read from their translation.

date tba\* **Illustrating the Bible: Mission impossible?**  
With artists John Armleder, Marc Bauer, Vidya Gastaldon and Mai-Thu Perret.

**19 Oct. Was the Reformation useful?**  
With Charles Morerod, Bishop of Lausanne, Geneva and Fribourg.

## OTHER EVENTS

- Participation of famous guests and anonymous visitors who will turn the lever on the press to print a page of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary Bible.
- Creation of illustrations for the Bible by contemporary artists.
- Presentation of the finished copy of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary Bible on 31 October 2017, the last day of the exhibition.

\*DETAILED PROGRAMME ON [mir.ch/print](http://mir.ch/print)

\*\* in French



# PLAN YOUR VISIT

## INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE REFORMATION

The Museum is next to  
Saint Peter's Cathedral  
4, rue du Cloître – CH-1204 Geneva  
Tel. +41 22 310 24 31  
[info@mir.ch](mailto:info@mir.ch)

Bus 36, alight at 'Saint Peter's Cathedral'  
Bus 2, 7, 10, 12, alight at 'Molard'

Parking Saint-Antoine / Mont-Blanc  
Disabled access – Shop  
CCP 17-270913-9

## OPENING HOURS

Tuesday to Sunday 10 am to 5 pm  
Open Pentecost, August 1<sup>st</sup>, Jeûne genevois  
and Jeûne fédéral

## ADMISSION

Adults	CHF 13.-
Pensioners / AI / Unemployed Students age 16 to 25 / Apprentices Group of 15	CHF 8.-
Children aged 7 to 16	CHF 6.-
Family (2 adults and 2 children)	CHF 30.-
Companions of disabled visitors	free entry
Guided tour on reservation	CHF 150.-
Espace Saint-Pierre combined ticket: Cathedral and towers, Archeological Site and International Museum of the Reformation	CHF 18.-

Follow the printing of the Bible on

- Musée international de la Réforme
- mir\_ge\_print



INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM  
OF THE REFORMATION



CRANADA