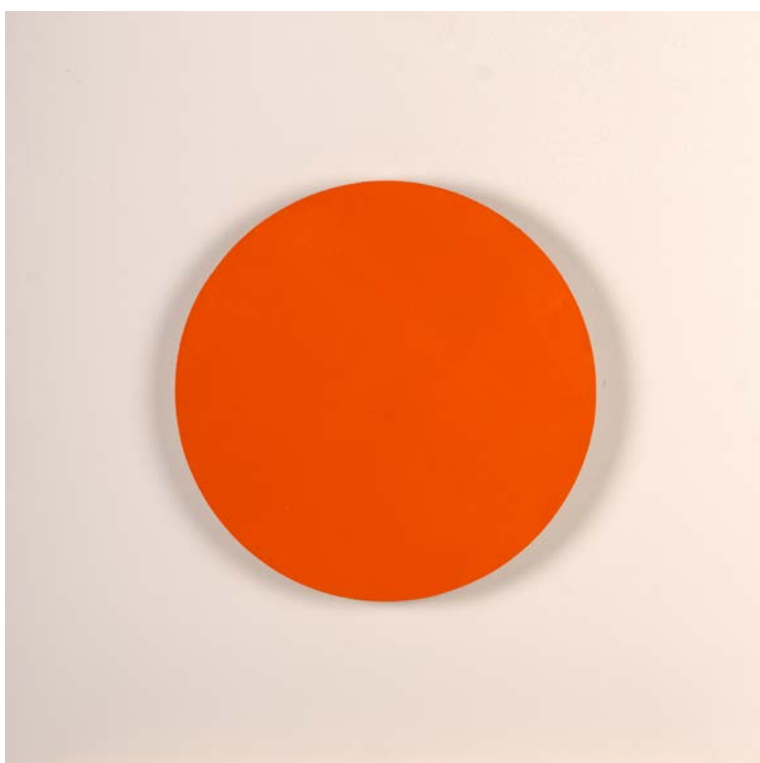


## Elementary painting

An orange surface on a baking sheet with a simple white frame, or an orange accent on a small-scale canvas...? What is the deciding factor that differentiates painting and crafts as art forms? How do today's artists deal with the starting point of painting since this problem appeared to have been long resolved but is challenged once again by each generation? These are the kind of questions to which the *Elementary Painting* exhibition at the Kunstmuseum St. Gallen devotes itself: It confronts the classic colour field paintings with situations which initially determine the paintings by their borders.



John Nixon: *Orange monochrome with white, 2002, Kunstmuseum St.Gallen*  
Donated by the artist and the Galerie Mark Müller 2012

The exhibition makes reference to the legendary *Radical Painting* exhibition that took place in 1984 at the Williams College of Art in Williamstown/Massachusetts. The term was established for a type of painting which concentrated on the study of colour and paint and mainly within the monochrome, wherein the abandonment of representation can also be seen as the common denominator of various artistic attitudes. The starting point of the *Elementary Painting* exhibition is a collection of works by John Nixon (\*1949 in Sydney, lives and works in Melbourne), generously donated by the artist and the Galerie Mark Müller, Zurich, which strengthens the considerable stock of monochrome paintings in the Kunstmuseum St. Gallen's collection.

### Press information

**Exhibition period**

20. September 2014  
to 25 January 2015

**Press conference**

Friday, 19 September 2014  
11:00 a.m.  
Kunstmuseum St.Gallen

**Exhibition opening**

Friday 19 September 2014  
18:30  
Kunstmuseum St.Gallen

**Press contact**

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John Nixon is the most well-known Australian artist of his generation who has seized and re-defined the traditions of constructivism through to minimal art. His work is associated with that of Marcia Hafif (\*1929), Imi Knoebel (\*1940), Olivier Mosset (\*1944) Steven Parrino (1958-2005) and others who are also represented with major works and are confronted by situations in the exhibition which to some extent comment on painting from an external perspective - ironic and fun!

Curator: Konrad Bitterli

### **Participating artists**

John M. Armleder  
Beni Bischof  
Reto Boller  
Mark Dagley  
Urs Frei  
Bernard Frize  
Marcia Hafif  
Imi Knoebel  
Joseph Marioni  
Oliver Mosset  
John Nixon  
Carl Ostendarp  
Steven Parrino  
David Reed  
Patrick Rohner  
Christoph Rütimann  
Karin Sander  
Adrian Schiess  
Bernard Tagwerker  
Günter Umberg  
Michael Venezia  
Christian Vetter  
Günther Wizemann  
Heimo Zobernig

## Factsheet

### Elementary painting

Exhibition Duration	20 September 2014 – 25 January 2015
Exhibition Location	Kunstmuseum St.Gallen
Press Conference	19 September 2014 11:00 a.m.   Kunstmuseum St.Gallen
Exhibition opening	19 September 2014 6:30 p.m.   Kunstmuseum St.Gallen
Curators	Konrad Bitterli
Opening hours	Tu-Su 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wed 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Mo closed
Admission	CHF 12 Combined ticket Kunstmuseum and Lokremise CHF 14 Free admission for members of the Kunstverein St.Gallen
Press Contact	Irina Wedlich T +41 71 242 06 85 irina.wedlich@kunstmuseumsg.ch
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