

IHR STARTPLATZ IN DIE ONLINE-WELT

LOCAL REPORTS FROM COLOGNE

New head of the Ludwig Museum presents itself

By October, the manuscript of the new boss at the Museum Ludwig is visible. He presents with a new presentation of the permanent exhibition and the first "own" exhibition - a retrospective of Louise Lawler - before. Until then he goes back to what already - is prepared - more or less.

Earlier this month, Philip Kaiser has taken up his duties as a director. The contract runs for seven years. "I need to incorporate more and get an overview," he said on Friday as he gave an overview of the exhibition next month. The photographer Man Ray, the artist Saul Steinberg, Phil Collins, Jo Baer and Kathryn Andrews are on the program.



The 40-year-old is full of praise for his predecessor Kasper König. "But," he says, out of the context in which this museum and its collection came about, one must "create something new." This he wants long term "dovetail" temporary and permanent exhibitions each other anymore. This involves repeatedly showing images from the depot. Even a "blockbuster" he has in mind, but will not give him away.

Kaiser is a museum for "a process". Is also indicated by the title "Not yet titled," there (no title), under which he will present in the next autumn the new permanent exhibition. This change as a museum he had also observed in purchases. So be minimal art in the collection barely represented - is this gap to be filled, or should we leave this area other houses? Those were the questions that he wants to face.

He also relies on donations, he thinks nothing of permanent loans. "They are suboptimal," he says, referring to sales by the owners. "A museum is not a water heater for the market," points out the native of Switzerland, who earned his spurs as a curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Basel and finally as senior curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles (MOCA).

Financially Emperor stands on a firmer ground than its predecessor. With the Ludwig Foundation, a new contract was signed. In addition to an acquisitions budget of € 500,000, which the city doubled by the same amount, there is for the first time shows a basic salary of 125,000 euros. With municipal funds, he can have an exhibition budget of 380,000 euros.

However, this means that he must continue to seek sponsors. Kaiser is optimistic to achieve that. The total cost of the museum operations amount annually to between six and seven million euros. (Js)