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nationale  
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Basel, 2 February 2012

## Press release

### Nationale Suisse and SIK-ISEA present Swiss art in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

**The new catalogue of the Nationale Suisse Collection treats you to a richly varied tour through the current Swiss art scene. It offers an insight into one of the major corporate collections of contemporary Swiss art.**

In collaboration with the Swiss Institute for Art Research (SIK-ISEA), the insurance group Nationale Suisse is unveiling the collection catalogue "Schweizer Kunst im 21. Jahrhundert – Die Sammlung Nationale Suisse" ("Swiss Art in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – The Nationale Suisse Collection"). The book is to be seen as a continuation of the first volume published in 2005, which lists all the works acquired for the collection from its establishment in 1943 through to 2000.

#### **A new chapter in the collection's history**

The current catalogue lists the works acquired over the last ten years and thereby presents a new chapter in the collection's history. Since the turn of the millennium, photographs, object art and video art have broadened the collection, thus establishing a place for important contemporary movements and showcasing new media alongside classical paintings, drawings and sculptures. In addition, since 2004 Nationale Suisse has been awarding an art prize to graduates of Swiss art universities and now includes works by the winners in its collection.

The main part of the book highlights 32 selected pieces, with full-page colour illustrations and engagingly written commentaries on the works. The catalogue also contains a complete inventory of works acquired between 2001 and 2011 with short biographies, critical appraisals and bibliographical references. Texts on the collection and Nationale Suisse's commitment to art complete the publication.

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**The publications are available from bookshops:**

Schweizer Kunst im 21. Jahrhundert – Die Sammlung Nationale Suisse (2012)

ISBN 978-3-7245-1788-7

Schweizer Kunst des 20. Jahrhunderts – Die Sammlung der National Versicherung (2005)

ISBN 978-3-9081-9638-9

Art suisse du XXe siècle – La Collection de la Nationale Suisse Assurances (2005)

ISBN 978-3-9081-9639-6

**A photo of the new catalogue is available at:**

[www.nationalesuisse.com/pressebilder](http://www.nationalesuisse.com/pressebilder)



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## Nationale Suisse

Nationale Suisse is an innovative, international and independent Swiss insurance group providing first-rate risk and pension solutions in non-life and life business as well as a growing number of tailored specialty lines products. In the specialty line art, Nationale Suisse provides cover for all types of artwork, entire collections and art shipments. In addition, Nationale Suisse itself has been collecting contemporary Swiss art for over sixty years and consequently has built up one of the most important corporate

collections of its kind, consisting of over 1,500 works by 400 artists. The Group comprises the parent company and about 20 subsidiaries and branch offices in focused product lines in Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Latin America and Turkey. The headquarters of Swiss National Insurance Company Ltd are in Basel. Nationale Suisse is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (NATN). As of 30 June 2011, the Group employed 1,932 staff (full-time equivalents).

## SIK-ISEA

The Swiss Institute for Art Research (SIK-ISEA), founded in 1951, is a centre of excellence for art history and art technology of international standing. The focal areas of the Institute's work are research, documentation, and the dissemination of knowledge and information about the fine arts, the art sector and art technology. The focus is on art created in Switzerland. Since 2008 SIK-ISEA has established itself as an Institute for Advanced Study. With its fellowship programme for Swiss and foreign professors and

doctoral students, it undertakes a diverse range of research activities. The Institute has its headquarters in Zurich. In conjunction with the University of Lausanne, it has had a branch in the French-speaking part of Switzerland since 1988, and currently has 68 employees. The Institute is financed through its own resources, public subsidies and institutional contributions. You can find more information at [www.sik-isea.ch](http://www.sik-isea.ch).

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