



Carène Foundation - Activity Report 2016

THE FOUNDATION BOARD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016

	Resident in	First elected	Elected until
<hr/> Chairman			
Richard de Tscharner Photographer	Küssnacht am Rigi (SZ)	2008	2018
<hr/> Vice-Chairman			
Guy Vermeil Attorney-at-Law	Vandoeuvres (GE)	2008	2017
<hr/> Attribution Committee			
Igor Ustinov Sculptor	Lausanne (VD)	2008	2017
Laetitia de Tscharner	Küssnacht am Rigi (SZ)	2012	2017
Alexander Robert-Tissot Entrepreneur	Feusiberg (SZ)	2013	2017
<hr/> Photography Committee			
Jean-Baptiste Huynh Photographer	Paris (France)	2008	2018
William A. Ewing Professor, historian	Chardonne (VD)	2009	2017
Caroline C. Lang Auctioneer	Geneva (GE)	2016	2018
Todd Brandow Art Consultant	Ibiza (ES)	2016	2018

The chairman is an ex-officio member of both committees.

ACTIVITIES OF THE FOUNDATION

THE FOUNDATION BOARD

Two prominent personalities from the art and culture world joined our Foundation Board. It is a great honour to be able to count on the assistance of Caroline Lang and Todd Brandow in the future.

Chairman of Sotheby's Switzerland, **Caroline Lang** is internationally recognised for her in-depth knowledge of the art market. Appointed Chairman of the Swiss Department of Impressionist, Modern & Contemporary Art in 2012, she has advised some of the most important collectors worldwide and played an instrumental role in the sale of prestigious collections. One of very few female auctioneers, Caroline Lang has also conducted major marathon auctions in Switzerland, the UK and Germany. We are pleased to welcome to our Board this brilliant personality whose original thinking and caring attitude will unarguably bring added value to the Foundation.

Todd Brandow, a former art consultant based in Paris since 1997, is a book publisher, foundation director and experienced photography curator. He enriches the Board with his extensive experience and knowledge of photography and the arts. As Executive Director of the *Foundation for the Exhibition of Photography* based in Minneapolis, with offices in Lausanne, Todd Brandow regularly spends time in Switzerland. This non-profit organisation was founded in 2003 to promote photography internationally through exhibitions and publications. Todd Brandow played a decisive role in producing major exhibitions featuring artists such as Edward S. Curtis, Edward Steichen, Vik Muniz, Arno Rafael Minkinen and Alvarez Bravo, not to mention his contribution to the Polaroid project in collaboration with the MIT Museum.

2016 ATTRIBUTIONS

The Foundation Board considered the request of **Nathalie Dietschy** for the publication of her PhD thesis in Art History.

Doctor of the University of Lausanne Faculty of Arts, where she has worked for many years under the direction of Professor Philippe Kaenel, Nathalie Dietschy is a senior researcher with the Swiss National Science Foundation, specialising in 20th century sacred art and secular art, as well as Christian iconography.

In view of the profile of the applicant, who was awarded the Faculty Prize of the University of Lausanne in 2012, and the exceptional quality of her thesis, which offers an unprecedented analysis of the Christ figure in the field of photography, the Board unanimously approved the request. This decision also takes into account the outstanding quality of the author, the general interest of the thesis and its exceptional iconographic corpus of 150 illustrations.

The book *Le Christ au miroir de la photographie contemporaine* was published in June 2016 by Alphil-Swiss University Press, thanks to a contribution of CHF 8,000 from the Carène Foundation.

Following the earthquake that struck Nepal in April 2015, the contribution made by our Foundation resulted in the rehabilitation of the public school, which was severely damaged. During the renovations, we were contacted by **Paul Metzener**, an architect who volunteers

in areas affected by natural disasters. Since the summer of 2015, Paul Metzener has devoted his energy to empowering Nele villagers and passing on the knowledge they need to rebuild their own homes to withstand future earthquakes, thereby enabling the villagers to regain hope and dignity.



The gratitude to Paul Metzener and Käthi Flühmann can be seen on the face of this woman, who receives financial compensation for the work accomplished.

Under his supervision and that of **Käthi Flühmann**, a mountain guide in Switzerland, and in close collaboration with our friend the Sherpa **Lok Thapa** on site, more than 200 homes have been rebuilt. This has allowed the Nele community to avoid the long delays in reconstruction often caused by central administration bureaucracy. Thanks to these efforts, the population of Nele was able to remain in their village, but it was necessary to build an additional school. A successful project was presented to us at the beginning of the summer, for a budgeted investment of CHF 70,000. In favour of the idea of contributing to the recovery of this village and happy to honour the exemplary commitment of Paul Metzener, the Board unanimously approved a contribution from our Foundation of CHF 35,000.

On his own initiative, **Igor Ustinov** asked the Peter Ustinov Foundation to contribute the balance of the funding, resulting in the first-ever wonderful joint project between our two foundations, bringing to life what will become the *Everest Carène Ustinov School*, scheduled to open in October 2017.



The land where the Everest Carène Ustinov School will be built

PHOTOGRAPHY COMMITTEE

Since no exhibitions were scheduled for 2016, photography remained on the back burner, giving the Photography Committee the opportunity to come together for strategic planning on how to optimise the value of the Foundation's photographic heritage over the long term. Aware of the Foundation's limited resources, we feel it is reasonable to favour a simple structure, focused primarily on the photographic work of its founder, **Richard de Tscharner**. However, the corollary of this focus is the finite nature of the resources. On the basis of this observation, the Committee suggested that William Ewing and Todd Brandow examine the existing collection to come up with a limited edition portfolio, the concept of which remains to be defined. Their recommendations will be presented and discussed at the next Board meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The 2015 exhibition boosted the annual income for that year, but as there was no such event in 2016, revenue was much lower. In fact, we are posting our first loss since 2010.

In line with the above, sales of photographs amounted to only CHF 27,871 in 2016, compared to CHF 158,326 in 2015. Given the inclusion in the balance sheet of certain prints from the exhibition in 2015, as well as some minimal adjustments in 2016, overall revenue amounted to CHF 34,815 compared to CHF 228,155 for the previous year.

As for expenses, we posted photo production costs of CHF 21,675 in 2016, versus CHF 90,095 in 2015. Including the fixed costs of leasing the photographic laboratory and the fees paid to **William Ewing** for his work as curator of the photographic collection, total

expenses were CHF 112,808, versus CHF 200,428 in 2015. This led to an operating loss of CHF 77,993, compared to last year's operating profit of CHF 27,727.

The encouraging financial results of CHF 63,166 in 2016, together with a donation of CHF 2,500, more than covered the attributions of CHF 43,000. Hence the net loss for 2016 was CHF 55,327.

The balance sheet total as of December 31, 2016 was CHF 1,777,609, including CHF 741,088 comprising the photographic inventory and CHF 1,036,521 the financial assets.

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