

Cartoonmuseum Basel

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Education offer for School-Classes

Guided tours

How do comics work?

According to the American cartoonist Chris Ware “cartoons are not real drawings, because they are drawings intended to be read.” This guided tour traces the development of comics. We get to know some important drawing styles – like Hergé’s “Ligne claire” (The Adventures of Tintin), and discover new trends leading up to the graphic novel. The questions of what comics are and can achieve will accompany us on this tour.

Boundaries of Satire

On this tour we discuss the limits of caricature. Where can caricature transcend boundaries? Where are limits to artistic expression? We look at different recent works and compare the artistic means and traditions that caricature follows in different countries.

Wonder Women!

Women in comics can have very different experiences: Posy Simmonds of England has been drawing for the renowned liberal daily newspaper ‘The Guardian’ for 50 years. In contrast, the USA’s Aline Kominisky-Crumb and her female colleagues had to found their own magazine, ‘Wimmen’s Comix’, in order to get their explicit stories about female sexuality published at all in the 1970s. And until cartoonist Catherine Meurisse joined the editorial team at ‘Charlie Hebdo’ in 2005, this French satirical magazine’s taboo-breaking jokes came exclusively from men. A dialogue-based guided tour through the careers of selected female pioneers on the comics scene and their groundbreaking works.

One tour (up to 25 persons): Sfr 100,– flat rate, plus Sfr 7,– admission per person

Two tours (from 26 persons): Sfr 130,– flat rate, plus Sfr 7,– admission per person



Workshops

I spy with my little eye

Flecks of colour turn into cartoon characters, stories and picture puzzles. Find meaning in a blotch, and content in a shape. Completing pictures for imaginative minds from 6 to 99.

Superhero!

Flying above the clouds like Superman, moving as quickly as Wonder Woman, possessing the strength of the Hulk, or vanishing like Invisible Woman – who hasn't wished for superpowers?

But super women and men can be more than just strong and untouchable! We invent everyday stories and give special superpowers to completely normal people – in a humorous and playful way. From 6 years onwards.

Face drawing for dummies

Cartoons work with sparse but confident lines. How does one draw strong characters with only a few strokes? How does a head come across as an endearing friend, a brave superhero or a fearless cowboy? The workshop reveals the secrets of character representation in comics and cartoons and encourages to put one's own characters on paper.

Why simple is hard

The "Ligne claire" style of drawing is known from "The Adventures of Tintin" and loved by everybody. It is characterised by distinct outlines, monochrome panels, and highly stylized characters. It is distinctive and easily readable at the same time. But to draw in this style requires more skill and discipline than one might guess, as the clear strokes are unforgiving when it comes to precision. In this workshop you learn to develop your own "Ligne claire" character as well as many basic elements of comics illustration.

Ouf ! Learning French with Comics

This interactive round tour adds a splash of colour to everyday learning and combines an interactive guided tour with a workshop. The museum becomes a stage, on which the participants are taken out of their everyday lives and can experiment with language.

In this interactive round tour, younger school pupils will focus more on visual language, the possibilities of drawing and the various design techniques in comics. More advanced pupils will address social and gender issues. What they all have in common, is that they quickly forget they are speaking French...

Recommended for: Primary school year 6, plus secondary school levels I to II



Costs:

One tour (up to 16 persons): Sfr 150,- flat rate, plus Sfr 7,- admission per person

Two tours (17–32 persons): Sfr 200,- flat rate, plus Sfr 7,- admission per person

