

VISITOR GUIDE

PROGRAMMING

XL and L Exhibitions: the first part of the year (XL) is opened to an outside curator (an artist, writer, art historian, philosopher, for example), who is invited to cast a fresh eye on the museum and its treasures. The second part of the year (L) focuses on a specific aspect of the collection and is orchestrated by MAH's curatorial teams.

M and S Exhibitions: this cycle of unique exhibitions unveils little-known parts of the collection, lifts themes approached in the large biannual exhibitions and furthermore launches collaborations with local institutions. Displays of works on paper are also included.

AUDIOGUIDES

1. Connect your phone to *mah expo* WiFi.
2. Visit soundcloud.com/mahgeneve or download the Soundcloud app to your device, then select the *MAHgeneve* page.
3. Pick the audio guide or the playlist of your choice, like *Parcours Coups de cœur* or *Parcours Invitation au voyage* or *Parcours Les étoiles du MAH*

INCLUSIVE CULTURE

Since 2010, the MAH has worked to make the collection accessible to all. In addition to the descriptive and touch tours offered to the blind and visually impaired, tactile and audio Virtuoz® floor plans are available and sometimes complemented by 3D models of certain masterpieces.

Sign language video guides were created to allow deaf and hard of hearing visitors to discover the masterpieces of the collection on the website izi.travel (*mah geneve*). All year round, visitors living with intellectual disabilities can enjoy visits in French that match their learning style. Finally, sensory visits accompanied by art therapists are organised for people living with Alzheimer's and for their caregivers.

Built between 1903 and 1910 by the Genevan architect Marc Camoletti, with the aim of uniting under one roof a number of dispersed public collections, the Musée d'Art et d'Histoire (MAH) is one of Switzerland's most important encyclopædic museums.

Boasting over a half a million objects, including major works and unique series that have made it an institution of international influence, the museum displays selections from its collections in continuously evolving installations devoted to the applied arts, fine arts, works on paper and to archæology.

Regional archeological findings, Egyptian and Classic antiquities, objets d'art, furniture, arms, paintings and sculptures are the witnesses to fifteen thousand years of history.

TEN MASTERPIECES

This selection outlines a tour through the permanent collection, with its distinctive features and highlights. These ten masterpieces are worth a visit in and of themselves.

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- A**  **Stained Glass From St. Peter's Cathedral, *Saint James the Greater*, 1487**
This stained-glass window representing Saint James the Greater comes from the apse of St Peter's Cathedral in Geneva. It is part of an ensemble of six quasi complete windows, depicting the Apostles as well as Maria Magdalena.
-
- B**  **Antonio Canova, *Venus and Adonis*, between 1789-1794 and 1820**
This sculptural group representing Venus and Adonis is by Antonio Canova, whose work is the epitome of neoclassical sculpture. Often inspired by mythology, Canova shows the sorrowful lovers in a tender embrace.
-
- C**  **Konrad Witz, *The Miraculous Draught of Fishes*, 1444**
This work by painter Konrad Witz is one of the MAH's highlights. It plays an important role in Western art history: by reproducing existing topography, it has become the first realistic "portrait" of a recognisable landscape.
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- D**  **Jean-Étienne Liotard, *Liotard Laughing*, 1770**
This self-portrait shows the painter as the actor of a farce in a theatrical setting. The artist with a toothless smile and cheeky gaze holds his hand in a mysterious fashion. He seems to be showing the way to a place invisible to the viewer.

E



Ferdinand Hodler, *The Jungfrau in the Mist*, 1908

In his last years, Ferdinand Hodler dedicated himself to Swiss landscapes. He visited Grindelwald a few times, where he admired the mythical Jungfrau. The mountaintop emerges from the fog, showing its blue and white peak, symbolising a spiritual world.

F



Félix Vallotton, *The Turkish Bath*, 1907

This painting, a tribute to the eponymous painting by Ingres, plays a special role within the many works by Félix Vallotton kept at the MAH. Whereas Ingres' piece is an ode to sensuality, this one shows the unforgiving way Vallotton depicts the human body.

G



Colossal Statue of Ramses II, 19th Dynasty, ca. 1290–1224 B.C.

Carved in a single block of granodiorite, this colossal statue was discovered in the Temple of Bubastis by Genevan Egyptologist Édouard Naville (1844-1926). In addition to its artistic qualities and historical significance, it is a rare example of an almost finished piece.

H



Large Silver Dish, known as the Charioteer and Hunters
Late 3rd – early 4th century C.E.

This silver masterpiece from Antiquity reflects the lifestyle of the imperial court. Its central medallion depicts a victorious charioteer and evokes the importance of chariot racing. Six hunting scenes decorate the dish's lip.

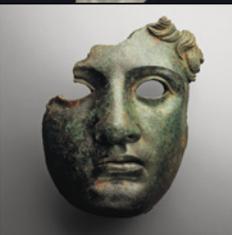
I



Portrait of Pompeia Plotina, between 118 and 120 C.E.

When compared to other sculpted portraits and numerous representations on coins, this statue undoubtedly is Pompeia Plotina. Originally from Nîmes, she married Trajan, who ruled the Empire from 98 to 117, and influenced her time by using her power to the people's advantage.

J



Statue fragment, *Idealised Young Man*, early 1st century C.E.

Part of the oldest bronze statue discovered in Switzerland, this fragment was restored circa 1715. The idealised features of the anonymous young man – he is not a god – suggest that the statue was made in an urban centre, proving that the Geneva region quickly welcomed the modernity that Rome represented.

2 FINE ARTS WORKS ON PAPER

M Exhibitions:

The Mountain in Perspective, until 12 February 2023

Jean Dunand and the Alchemist, March 18 - August 20, 2023

S Exhibitions:

Chiaroscuro Engraving, February 4 - May 28, 2023

Precious Reserve, June 3 - October 1, 2023

1 APPLIED ARTS

M Exhibition:

Making Money: 19th Century Genevan Banknotes,
until 19 February 2023

0 ADMISSIONS DESK APPLIED ARTS

XL Exhibition:

when the sun goes down and the moon comes up,
January 26 - June 18, 2023

(a separate guide for this exhibition is available at the museum entrance)

-1 ARCHÆOLOGY RESTAURANT

-2 REGIONAL ARCHÆOLOGY



ELEVATOR



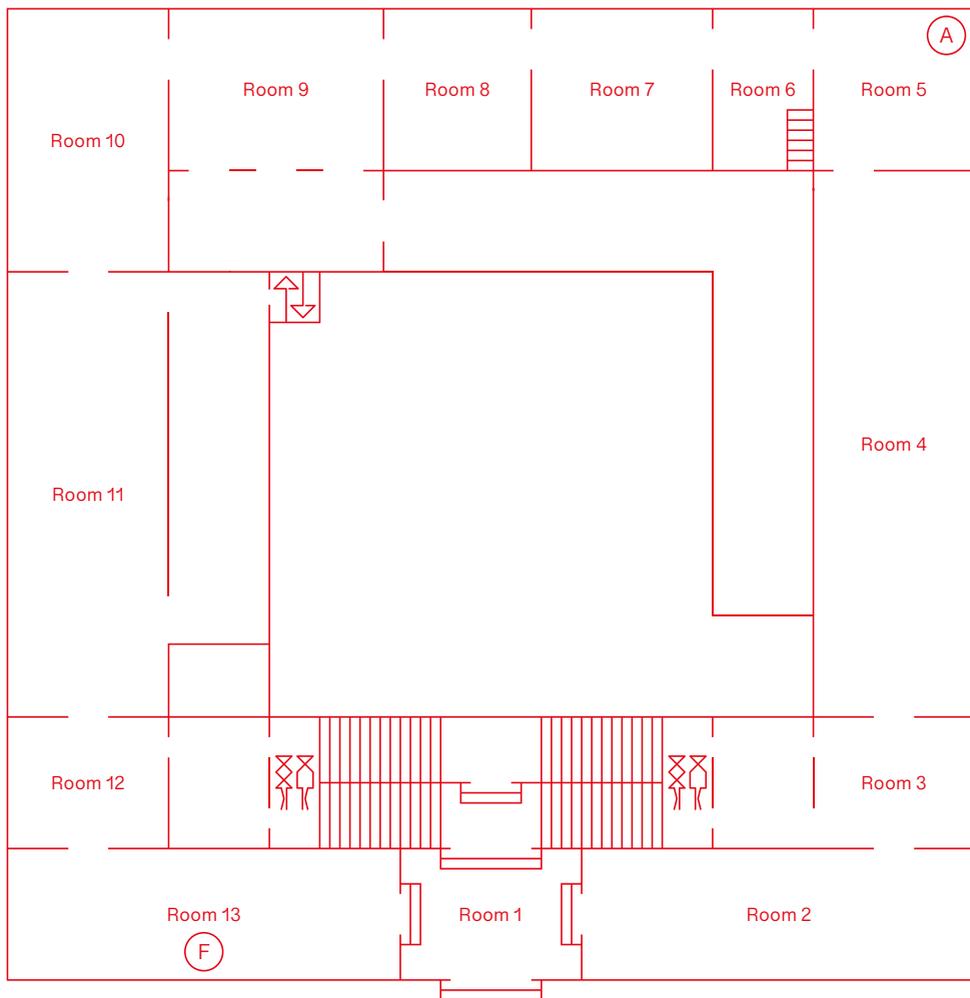
CLOAKROOM



RESTROOM



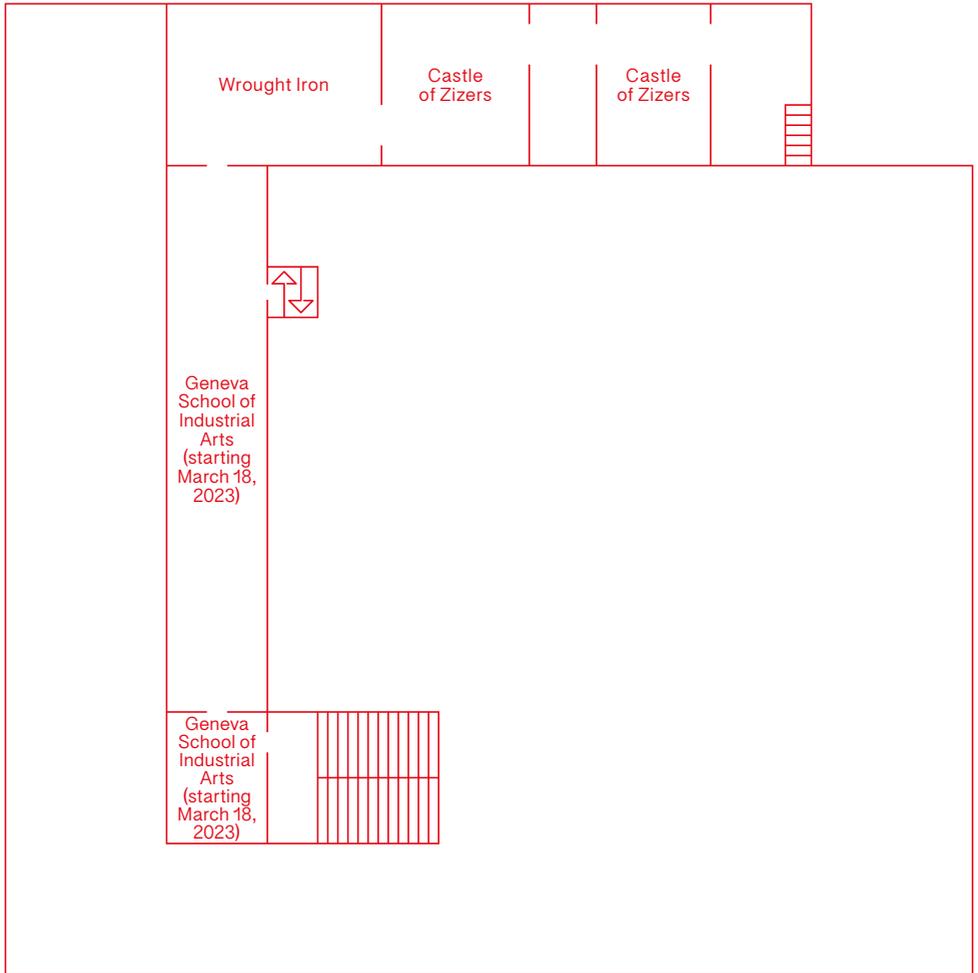
RESTAURANT



0 CARTE BLANCHE TO UGO RONDINONE

Unfolding through the upper floor galleries, Ugo Rondinone's narrative and poetic presentation brings together more than five hundred pieces from the MAH's collection with his own work as an artist and curator. After encountering *the sun*, the towering sculpture installed in the entrance hall, viewers then freely choose the course of their visit. The suite of galleries includes two imaginary spaces, Félix Vallotton's apartment and that of Ferdinand Hodler, and also *the moon* in the Ceremonial Room of the Castle of Zizers.

XL Exhibition: *when the sun goes down and the moon comes up*,
January 26 - June 18, 2023

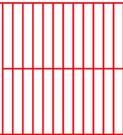
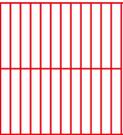


1 APPLIED ARTS

In the upper floor galleries, there is a suite of historical Swiss rooms from the 17th century with sculpted woodwork from the Castle of Zizers (canton of Grisons). One of the rooms in the sequence presents wrought iron from Geneva and France in Art Nouveau and Art Deco styles.

Starting March 18, the two adjacent rooms will feature a selection of pieces, furniture and vases for example, executed by artists from the Geneva School of Industrial Arts at the turn of the twentieth century.

M Exhibition: *Making Money: 19th Century Genevan Banknotes*, until 19 February 2023

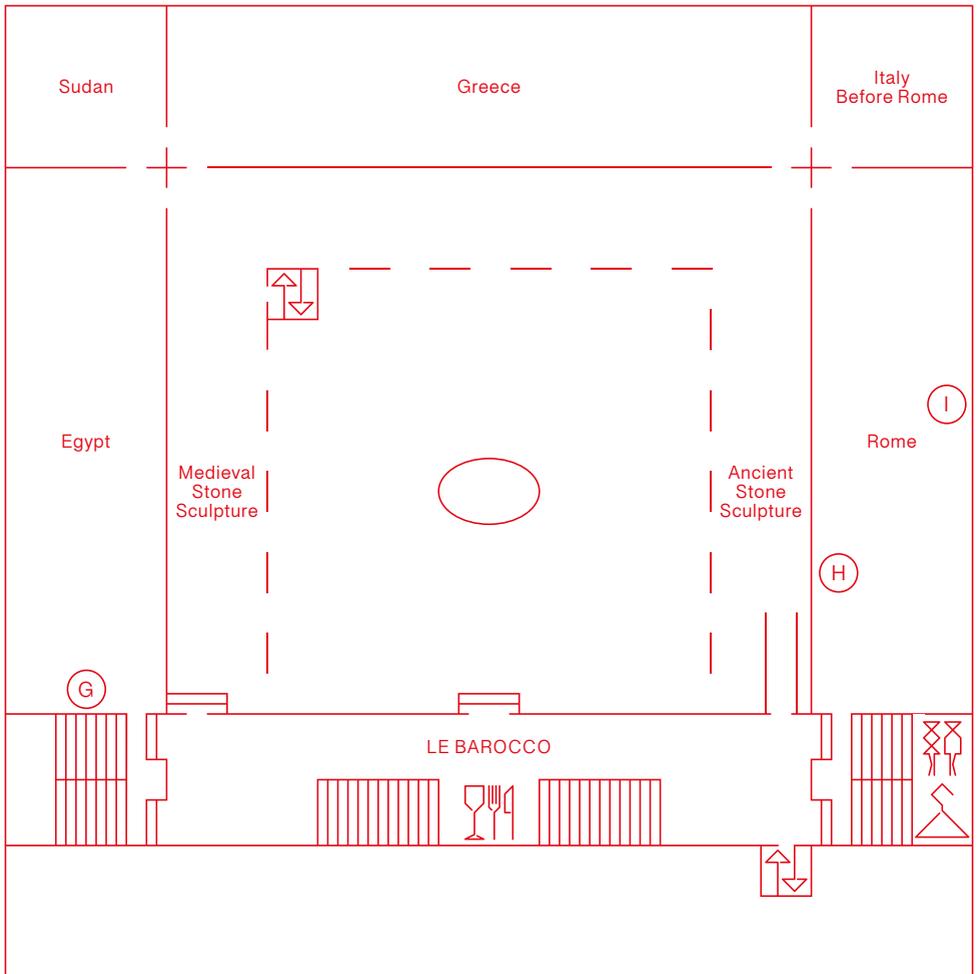
Genevan Landscapes De La Rive, Töpffer 18 th – 19 th c.	Geneva The English Taste 18 th – 19 th c.	Neo-Classicism Saint-Ours 18 th – 19 th c.	Genevan Landscapes Calame & Diday 19 th c.	Modern Landscapes Monet, Van Gogh 19 th – 20 th c.
European Portrait Liotard, Hogarth 18 th c. D	S Exhibition  		S Exhibition	E Ferdinand Hodler 19 th – 20 th c.
Italian Baroque Art 17 th c.	S Exhibition Liotard Self- Portraits		S Exhibition Bonnard, Vallotton, Amiet	Portraits 19 th – 20 th c.
Flemish & Dutch Art 17 th c.	Portraits 16 th – 17 th c. Genre Scenes 16 th – 17 th c. Landscape 16 th – 17 th c.		Modern Art 19 th – 20 th c. École de Paris 20 th c. Félix Vallotton 19 th – 20 th c.	Swiss Symbolism 19 th – 20 th c.
International Mannerism 16 th c. 	Sculpture			Sculpture Genevan Modernity 20 th c. 
Konrad Witz Religious and Secular art 14 th – 16 th c. C		B	M Exhibitions	

2 FINE ARTS & WORKS ON PAPER

This route threads from the Middle Ages to the mid-20th century, from Konrad Witz to Alberto Giacometti, and offers a panoramic view of European art recentered around Swiss art. While retracing a history of art through major pieces, the approach cultivated here is both chronological and thematic.

The floor is anchored by five rooms devoted to evolving presentations from the collection: a large gallery of special exhibitions (M) and four cases displaying works on paper (S).

M Exhibitions: *The Mountain in Perspective*, until 12 February 2023; *Jean Dunand the Alchemist*, March 18 - August 20, 2023. S Exhibitions: *Chiaroscuro Engraving*, February 4 - May 28, 2023; *Precious Reserve*, June 3 - October 1, 2023

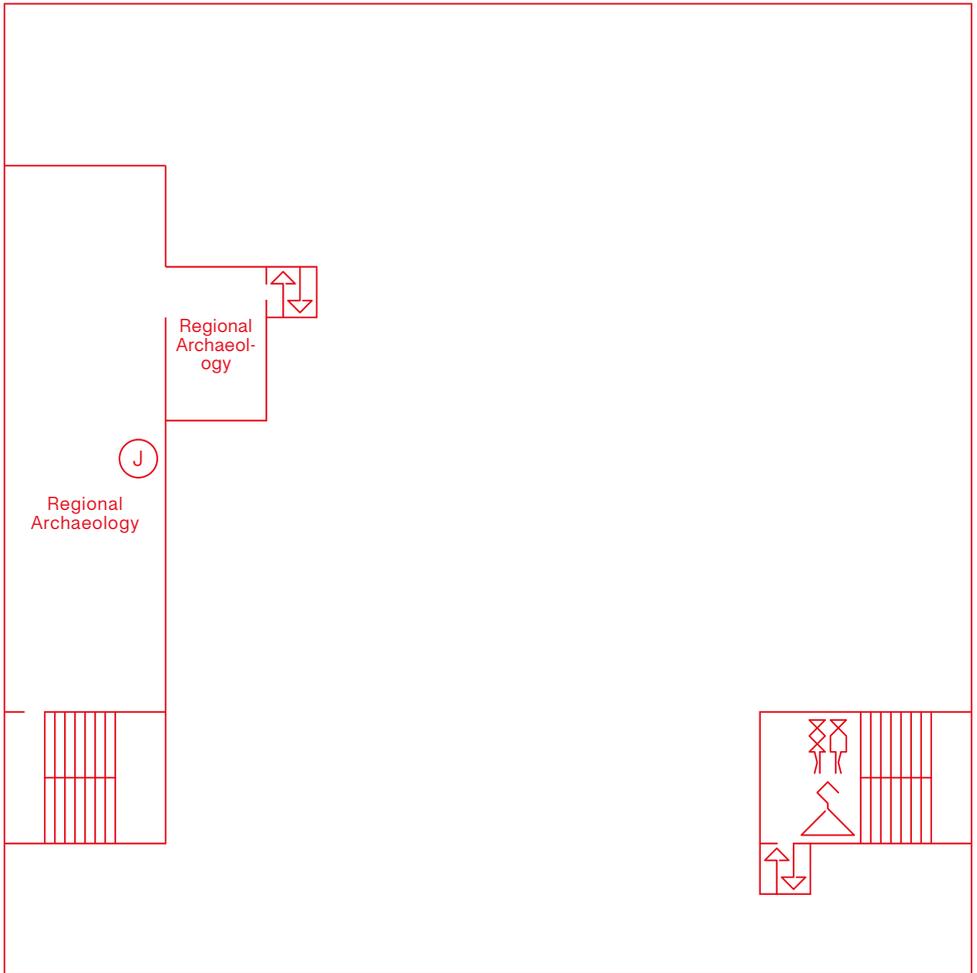


-1 ARCHÆOLOGY

The antiquities collection includes more than 70,000 objects. Assembled for the most part in the 19th century at the instigation of collectors, it testifies to the Genevan taste for ancient civilisations.

The pieces are displayed in chronological order, leading the visitor from Pharaonic Egypt to the Roman Empire via Ancient Greece and the peoples of the Italian peninsula before the Roman expansion.

The MAH boasts having the largest Egyptian antiquities collection in Switzerland. The flagship of the Greek collection is unquestionably the Italiote funerary vase collection from the Greek colonies of Southern Italy. The superb group of sculpted portraits in the gallery of Roman antiquities is not to be missed either.



-2 REGIONAL ARCHÆOLOGY

The Regional Archæology room presents discoveries made in the Geneva region from over more than a century. The installation guides the viewer from the first signs of human occupation, around 13,000 B.C., to the year 1000 of the modern era. This room contains one of the museum's treasures, the oak statue of an Allobrogian (Genevan Gaul) chieftain, standing nearly three metres high.

LE BAROCCO

The MAH includes a restaurant, Le Barocco, inspired by local Genevan traditions and specialising in homemade pastries. During the summer months, an outdoor terrace welcomes visitors into the museum's inner courtyard. The restaurant is only open during the MAH's visiting hours.

Information and bookings: T +41 (0)22 418 26 82

ONLINE SHOP

The MAH's exhibition catalogues and a variety of other items are available at shop.mahmah.ch

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Buses 3 & 5 (Athénée stop), bus 7 (Musée d'Art et d'Histoire stop), bus 36 (Saint-Antoine), buses 1, 5 & 8 (Florissant stop), buses 2, 6, 10 & trams 12, 17 (Rive stop), regional train Léman Express (Genève-Champel stop)

Parking: Saint-Antoine

Wheelchair access: entrance on Boulevard Jaques-Dalcroze 9

GENERAL INFORMATION

MAH - Musée d'Art et d'Histoire
Rue Charles-Galland 2, 1206 Genève
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mah@ville-ge.ch

mahmah.ch
mahmah.ch/collection
mahmah.ch/blog
    [mahgeneve](https://www.youtube.com/mahgeneve)

Open from Tuesday to Sunday, 11am to 6pm
Thursdays, from 12pm to 9pm. Le Barocco opens at 11:45am

Pay what you wish!

Suggested admission between 5 CHF and 20 CHF.