

## GALERIE THOMAS

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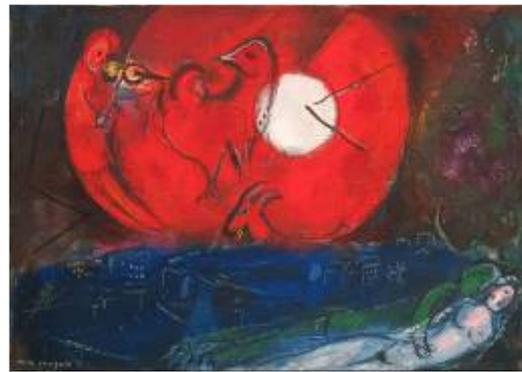
## Art Basel

June 15 - 18, 2017, Hall 2.0, Booth H14

At Art Basel 2017, Galerie Thomas is presenting a special selection of masterpieces from its main programme. As one of the leading international galleries for German Expressionism and Classic Modern, in Basel we are presenting, among others, works by Alexej von Jawlensky, August Macke, Oskar Schlemmer as well as Marc Chagall, Pablo Picasso and Chaim Soutine.



Chaim Soutine  
*Landscape at Cagnes, 1923-24*



Marc Chagall  
*Etude pour la nuit de Vence, 1953*

Chaim Soutine's oil painting "Landscape at Cagnes" was painted in 1923/24 during his stay at Cagnes-sur-Mer (south of France). He painted the small town of Cagnes, which is located on a hill, in many variations. In the present work, the powerful brush stroke draws the viewer into the town on the hill. The pull also seems to encompass the surrounding landscape and the houses, which adapt themselves to the curves of the street in an amorphous vortex. However, the movement does not disturb the painting's composition, Soutine contains it and generates a defining poignancy in the process.

Between 1952 and 1956, Marc Chagall painted the "Série de Paris", a group of works which show that he had truly arrived in France after moving there in 1950. The poetic scenes he now created were set against the backdrop of Paris or towns and villages in Provence. In "Etude pour la nuit de Vence" (1953), the violinist, the rooster and the goat, well known elements he cherished as reminders of life in his beloved hometown of Vitebsk, are floating in the night sky, surrounded by deep red. The full moon is shining down on a dark city, with a pair of lovers embracing in the foreground.

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**GALERIE THOMAS**

Expressionism & Classic Modern

# THOMAS PRESS RELEASE

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**Pablo Picasso**  
*Tête d'Homme, profil, 1963*



**Lucio Fontana**  
*Concetto Spaziale, 1963*

In the spring of 1963 **Pablo Picasso** painted a whole series of portraits of a painter and on the theme "Painter and Model". Picasso's main inspiration was his study of Rembrandt, whose "Self portrait with Saskia" he interpreted in a large painting on March 13, 1963. In the preceding days, he created several works of a painter in profile, whose characteristics, the strongly accentuated eyes, the ruffled curly hair, and the beard are the same as Picasso's Rembrandt in his version of "Self portrait with Saskia". The painting "Tête d'Homme, profil", created only a few days earlier, also belongs to this group of Rembrandt portraits. Here, Picasso explored the physiognomy of the Dutch master, as well as the complex spatial perspective, in a concentrated composition.

In the same year, the avant-gardist **Lucio Fontana** created the sculpture "Concetto Spaziale". The glazed ceramic in blue and green was created as a unique piece while searching for a new experience of space, not only for sculpture, but for painting as well. Fontana was concerned with opening up spaces by perforating the canvas or picture plane with sharp tools. For this reason, he opened monochrome canvasses with a sharp knife in 1958. The resulting slash created the illusion of an infinite space behind it. In this way he penetrated the two-dimensionality of his work and opened another dimension. The artistic intention was to express emptiness as a positive element. Later he used the same principle on reliefs of various materials and on oviform objects made of clay and bronze.

We are looking forward to your visit at this year's booth of Galerie Thomas.

**For detailed press information, as well as high resolution images, please contact  
Sabrina Betz at +49 89 29 000 863 / [s.betz@galerie-thomas.de](mailto:s.betz@galerie-thomas.de)**

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Tuerkenstrasse 16 · 80333 Munich · Germany · Phone +49-89-29 000 80  
Fax +49-89-29 000 888 · [info@galerie-thomas.de](mailto:info@galerie-thomas.de) · [www.galerie-thomas.de](http://www.galerie-thomas.de)