

**FONDATION PIERRE GIANADDA  
MARTIGNY SUISSE**

## **TURNER – THE SUN IS GOD**

**In collaboration with Tate**

**March 3th until June 25th 2023**

**Every day from 10 a.m to 6 p.m**

### ***Exhibition Concept Summary***

English Romantic painter, watercolourist and printmaker Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775-1851) saw the elements of nature as abstract forces, with great symbolic significance. Once dismissed as a minor genre, Turner raised the status of landscape painting to “high art” by defying conventions and incorporating innovative techniques in his allegorical depictions of spectacular scenery and environmental conditions.

Today, he is widely recognized as the greatest landscape painter of the Romantic period due to his mastery of light, colour and atmosphere, and his situation of human experience in the greater natural world.


From Turner’s early beginnings in the 1790s to his climactic works of the mid to late 1840s, this exhibition explores his fascination with meteorological and atmospheric phenomena through over 100 paintings and watercolours. Storms, clouds, rainbows, fogs, fires and the moon were recurring motifs, but the sun was undoubtedly his most beloved subject. This exhibition traces the development of Turner’s compositions from early sketches and exploratory ‘colour beginnings’ to finished watercolours, oil paintings and published prints. The selection reveals how watercolour was instrumental in Turner’s scientific yet intuitive approach and allowed him to capture the intensity of nature’s forces with an unparalleled expressive accuracy.

Turner’s inspiration often came from his travels across Britain and continental Europe. His composite landscapes drew upon a range of sources, including the study of natural sciences, classical mythology, literature, art, poetry and modern technological invention. Between tradition and innovation, outdoor studies and the studio, nature and the ideal, this exhibition presents the various preoccupations behind Turner’s creations with all their contrasts and paradoxes. Turner’s artworks confront the viewer with a sensory experience of nature that is as affecting today as it was for his contemporaries.

***For the second time the Fondation Pierre Gianadda shows masterpieces by Turner from Tate.***

David Blayney Brown staged an outstanding and successful exhibition *Turner and the Alps* at the Fondation in 1999. Twenty-four years later he is curating *Turner : The Sun is God*. Through seven themes the exhibition sheds light on different aspects of Turner's artistic development and celebrates his fascination with light and atmosphere. In the final weeks of his life, Turner famously declared "The Sun is God", inspiring the title of the exhibition, and hinting at the artist's devotion to capturing this ubiquitous force.

Written by David Blayney Brown and Katie Chester, adapted for Martigny by Martha Degiacomi.

Exhibition prepared in collaboration with  Manifesto Expo

Sponsored by



Partenaire principal de la Fondation Pierre Gianadda

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## Practical Informations

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**Website : <http://www.gianadda.ch/>**  
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### Tarifs

Adults : CHF 20.-- **€ 20.--**

Seniors (60 + ) : CHF 18.-- **€ 18.--**

Children (10 to 18 years) : CHF 12.-- **€ 12.--**

Family (Parents and minor children, - 10 years) : CHF 42.-- **€ 42.--**

Students (Student card, until 25 years) : CHF 12.-- **€ 12.--**

Disabled : reduction of CHF 2.--, **€ 2.--**

Group-price: more than 10 persons: reduction of CHF 2.--, **€ 2.--**

**Opening hours** : Every day from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

**Guided tours**

Normal price, no additional charges, normally on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Guided tours on request for groups of 15 persons and over:

Conference CHF 100.--, € 100.-- + group price

Guided tours in French, English and German on request for less than 15 persons: package of CHF 370.--, € 370.--

**Library – Boutique - Restaurant**

**Exhibition catalogue : CHF 35.--/ € 35.--**

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