

Cover (detail):
© Posy Simmonds, 2021

POSY SIMMONDS CLOSE UP

28.8.—
24.10.
2021

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OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION

POSY SIMMONDS CLOSE UP

Friday, 27/8/2021, 6:30pm
Venue will be announced online

With: co-curator Paul Gravett from London, cartoonist and artist Posy Simmonds, and co-curator Anette Gehrig, director of Cartoonmuseum Basel. Music: Francesca Gaza Trio. Followed by snacks & drinks. You and your friends are very welcome.

British cartoonist, comics artist and children's book author Posy Simmonds (b. 1945) has attracted attention internationally with the three graphic novels *Gemma Boverly* (1999), *Tamara Drewe* (2007) and *Cassandra Darke* (2018), and their headstrong titular female characters. She fascinates with precise psychological portraits, mocks the shortcomings of the middle class and cultural scene, caricatures staidness, and criticises social developments. Relatively long text passages alternate with traditional comic sequences, while references to classics by writers such as Gustave Flaubert and Charles Dickens add further layers to the stories.

Posy Simmonds became famous nationwide for her strip *The Silent Three of St. Botolph's*, which started appearing in *The Guardian* in 1977 and was about three long-time female friends. She later published it in books and developed it further to create her first graphic novel, *True Love*. Other publications of hers also started as strips

in *The Guardian*. In the 1980s, she published several highly successful children's books.

An elegant, clear and corporeal drawing style, profoundly developed characters, unerring humour and the alert mind of a great storyteller characterise all of Posy Simmonds's works. Her graphic novels have been translated into several languages and some of her books have been made into films.

Cartoonmuseum Basel presents the most comprehensive retrospective on this major British artist yet seen in Switzerland, with original drawings from all graphic novels and from her children's books, as well as illustrations and cartoons for newspapers and magazines, plus unpublished preliminary work. This is also the first ever exhibition of originals by Posy Simmonds in the German-speaking world.



«Fred», 1987



«Cassandra Darke», 2018

TALK DRAWING WITH A STOPWATCH

Friday, 27/8/2021, 4pm

In over 50 years of working for liberal left-wing British daily newspaper *The Guardian*, Posy Simmonds has gained considerable experience as a cartoonist, caricaturist and illustrator. In 2020, Swiss illustrators organised themselves within the trade union syndicom, so as to jointly improve and shape their working conditions.

BZ's editor-in-chief Patrick Marcolli moderates a talk with Posy Simmonds and illustrator Kati Rickenbach about similarities and differences between the situations of artists working on newspapers, magazines and books.



«Tamara Drewe», 2007

ANIMATION PRODUCTION

Friday, 27/8/2021, 4–6pm

Saturday, 28/8/2021, 10am–4pm

Sunday, 29/8/2021, 12 noon–4pm

In cooperation with, and as part of, the 2021 Gässli Film Festival in Basel, a three-day animation workshop will take place at K'Werk. At various stations, you will learn techniques with

which to put a multitude of images in motion – by hand or on a computer.

Ages 10 to 16.

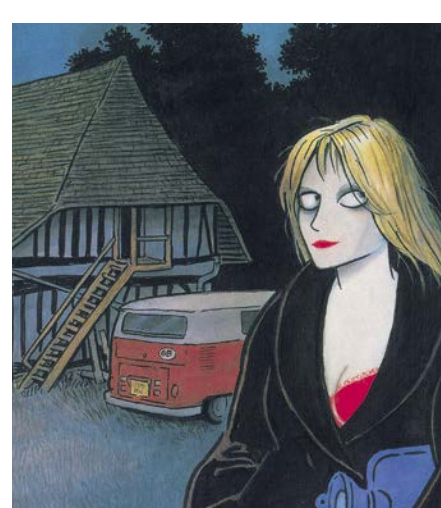
In cooperation with Fantoche, the Gässli Film Festival and K'Werk

WEDNESDAY MATINEE CLOSE-UPS

Wednesday, 1/9/2021, 10am–12 noon

British illustrator and caricaturist Posy Simmonds has been working for *The Guardian* since the 1970s. The humorous, feminist arc of her artistic career has spanned more than 50 years, ranging from widely read children's

books to socio-critical comic strips and lavish graphic novels that were later taken into conversation. Curator Anette Gehrig in conversation with Sophie Bürgi, University of Basel, Center for Gender Studies



«Gemma Boverly», 1999

SUNDAY GUIDED TOURS

5/9, 19/9 and 10/10/2021, 2pm

Sunday guided tour in French

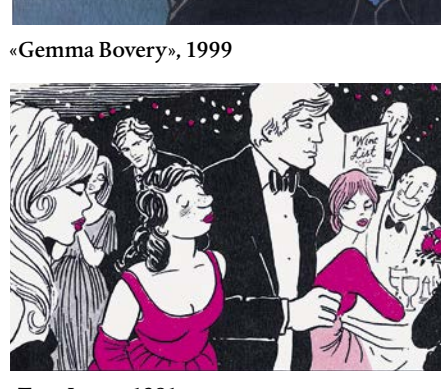
26/9/2021, 2pm

CURATOR GUIDED TOURS

Sunday, 3/10 and 24/10/2021, 2pm

The retrospective at Cartoonmuseum Basel spans over 50 years, looking back on the impressive career of British cartoonist Posy Simmonds: first female illustrator at *The Guardian*, working there since the 1970s, many extremely popular children's books, first British

graphic novel, several albums adapted into live-action films and much more. This guided tour introduces you to a great artist, stopping off at all the stations along the route that her humorous and socio-critical oeuvre has taken.



«True Love», 1981

CARTOON SUNDAY I AM MANY

Sunday, 12/9 and 17/10/2021,

2pm–4pm

On Posy Simmonds's desk, there is a mirror, which she uses to work out her characters' gestures and facial expressions. Posing and playing with her reflection is the key to the multilayered authentic characters in her books.

In this workshop, you will learn how to use your reflection to develop characters with expression and give them the desired character traits. Ages 6 and above

I NEVER READ

20/9–26/9/2021

Monday, 12 noon–8pm

Tuesday/Wednesday, 11am–8pm

Thursday until Sunday, 11am–7pm

Cartoonmuseum Basel is present at the art book fair "I Never Read" with a selection of art books. Venue: Messe Basel, Mezzanine Hall 1 Süd

Opening hours
Tuesday—Sunday
11 am—5 pm

Admission
Fr. 12.— Adults
Fr. 7.— Disabled persons, students/
trainees up to 25 years of age

For further information about
the art education we offer,
please visit:
www.cartoonmuseum.ch

Special guided tours are
available for school classes, company
outings and other group visits.

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FILM TAMARA DREWE

Friday, 8/10/2021, 7pm–10pm

Guided tour: 7pm, Cartoonmuseum Basel

Film screening: 8:30pm, Filmhaus Basel,

Gerbergässlein 29

Famous British director Stephen Frears has adapted the Posy Simmonds graphic novel *Tamara Drewe* into a film. After spending years in the city and having her nose fixed, Tamara returns to the place where she grew up, to sell her mother's house. Before long, the tranquility of this southern English village becomes a thing of the

past. With Gemma Arterton, Dominic Cooper and Roger Allam. Director and producer Stephen Frears (*My Beautiful Laundrette*, *High Fidelity*, *The Queen*) has twice been nominated for an Oscar as Best Director. Presented by Cartoonmuseum Basel and Filmhaus Basel.