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Fabian Saul:

“This Is How The Light Remembers”

Wednesday, 22 October 2025 to Sunday, 18 January 2026

Fabian Saul is an artist. In 2024, he wrote a novel entitled “Die Trauer der Tangente” (The Mourning of the Tangent). The novel is about loss, memory and grief. *Grief* and *mourning* mean: being sad because something has passed or because someone has died. The exhibition “**This Is How The Light Remembers**” shows themes from Fabian Saul’s novel.

This installation is Fabian Saul's first own exhibition. You can walk through the artwork and feel it with all your senses.

About the artist Fabian Saul

Fabian Saul was born in Germany in 1986. He writes books, makes music and writes compositions. His work combines music, texts and art.

- Saul is interested in the secrets of places. “Schlechte Wörter” (Bad Words) and “Stoff aus der Luft” (Substance from the Air) are two of his works. They are walk-in spaces with texts, voices and music. Fabian Saul also manages a magazine called “Flaneur” (Stroller). Each issue of the magazine describes a street in a city.
- Saul also directs theatre plays. For example, he directed “Zärtlichkeit” (Tenderness) in 2022 and “Die Schwerkraft der Gnade” (The Gravity of Mercy) in 2024.

Saul has been given various prizes, such as the Alfred Döblin Medal. He lives and works in Berlin.

What is the novel "The Mourning of the Tangent" about?

A *tangent* is a word from mathematics: it is a straight line that touches a circle. Fabian Saul says: “A tangent is a touch that does not repeat itself. Remembering and forgetting touch each other and become the same thing.”

In the novel, two people experience something terrible: a friend dies. The characters begin a search: they walk through the friend's apartment. There they find texts, music and films. They also visit various other places. These places help them feel and remember. The two persons feel grief and pain. But there is also hope for a better future.

With this novel, Saul asks: Does every person have to mourn alone? How can we all mourn together and share our grief?

What is the exhibition about?

The exhibition shows the friends' search. You can experience for yourself what this search feels like: you can walk around the installation and sit down. The exhibition space will be a place where you can remember and think.

There will also be a programme with performances, talks, films and concerts. You can find more information about the programme here: migrosmuseum.ch/agenda

Strong and weak at the same time

For his exhibition, Fabian Saul uses images, texts, sounds and objects. For example:

- There is a film in five parts. The film combines moving images and gives the book a new form.
- Voices and music fill the room.
- Large music strings divide the room like walls.
- In the middle, there is a mattress made from wood. The mattress plays an important role in the book.
- There is also a wall with many paper slips. More paper slips are added during the exhibition.

Fabian Saul says that his artwork has a “weak architecture”. By this, he means that it is both strongly built and weak at the same time. Fabian Saul is showing how uncertain our memories are. We cannot hold on to our memories. Perhaps we will forget them at some point. The exhibition asks: Is the world right the way it is built? Or can we see it differently?

Voices from the past

Famous people from the past influence the way we think and feel. For example, we have read their books or have listened to their music. As a result, they also influence how we mourn.

In Fabian Saul's artwork, we hear the voices of famous people:

- of singers like Nina Simone and Leonard Cohen
- of writers like Jean Genet and Audre Lorde
- of thinkers like Walter Benjamin, Frantz Fanon and Edward Said.

Mourning together

Today, we are often alone with our grief. The exhibition shows that mourning can also be shared. We do not have to keep to ourselves when we grieve: We can connect with the world. We can mourn together and support each other.

In his novel, Fabian Saul writes: “We have made the world what it is. But the world could be different.” The exhibition makes us think: “How can grief give rise to a just future?”