

mumok
Museum moderner Kunst
Stiftung Ludwig Wien
Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Wien

J.K. Ping-Pong Club
Grand Opening
Thursday, December 1, 2016
From 6.30 pm, entrance free

Every Thursday, 6 to 9 pm
Reserve a table tennis table in the
exhibition



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Grand Opening of the *J.K. Ping-Pong Club* on December 1, 2016 Dirk Stermann moderates a table tennis competition in the exhibition *Július Koller. One Man Anti Show*

Slovak artist Július Koller was a passionate sportsman and an enthusiastic tennis and table tennis fan. He saw the constant to and fro of the balls and the clearly defined rules of the game as symbols of democratic communication. He frequently appealed to the principles of fair play in these games as metaphors for a working democracy. They were also the perfect expression of his own utopias in a world that was otherwise determined by arbitrary political rules—and the violation of these same rules. In 1970 he was invited to hold a solo exhibition in the Youth Gallery (Galéria Mladých) in Bratislava, and he took this as an opportunity to play table tennis with visitors, under the name of *J.K. Ping-Pong Club*. This legendary Koller action space is now revived for the exhibition *Július Koller. One Man Anti Show* at mumok, and visitors can again play table tennis.

On December 1, 2016, at 6.30 pm, mumok invites visitors to take part in the opening tournament, which will be moderated by the cabaret artist and author Dirk Stermann. A number of more or less talented ping-pong aficionados from the field of arts and culture have already registered, and the audience can compete against them.

In the following months, for the duration of the whole exhibition, table tennis tables can be booked for Thursdays from 6 to 9 pm via the website www.mumok.at. Visitors with sporting aspirations can use them for their own tournaments, for round-the-table fun, or for friendly matches.

On the Exhibition *Július Koller. One Man Anti Show*

November 25, 2016 to April 17, 2017

From November 25, 2016, mumok presents *Július Koller. One Man Anti Show*, a new approach to the work of Slovak artist Július Koller (1939–2007), an iconic figure in the history of the Neo-avant-garde and Post-avant-garde. His work has been a significant source of inspiration for artists and intellectuals worldwide since its rediscovery in the early 1990s and has become a key reference point for a young generation of artists and other protagonists in the world of culture. The full breadth and scale of Koller's oeuvre is showcased for the first time in the exhibition at mumok, which highlights both his conceptual rigor and the broad spectrum of artistic methods he utilizes. Alongside internationally renowned pieces, the show presents many works, archival documents and ephemera that have never previously been exhibited. Extending across three floors, *Július Koller. One Man Anti Show* turns the spotlight on the topicality of this unique artistic practice through a new reading and presentation of Koller's creative anti-universe, in which everything is called into question.

Curated by Daniel Grůň, Kathrin Rhomberg und Georg Schöllhammer