

**musée + C genève**

musée international  
de la croix-rouge  
et du croissant-rouge

avenue de la paix 17  
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## **Press release**

**Geneva 13 April 2021**

### ***Concerned*** ***30 Artists on Humanitarian Issues***

**For an exhibition that will run from 27 April to 26 September 2021, the International Museum of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (MICR) invited 30 artists and designers who trained in Geneva – the global capital of humanitarian action – to examine the theme of humanity.**

What impact does Geneva's role as the global capital of humanitarian action have on the work of artists who trained here? And more generally, can art help us to better understand humanitarian issues?

*Concerned: 30 Artists on Humanitarian Issues*, the MICR's latest temporary exhibition, addresses these questions, showcasing the work of artists and designers from the Geneva School of Art and Design (HEAD) and the Supimax School in Dakar. They all competed for the Prix Art Humanité, a competition launched in 2015 by the Geneva Red Cross, HEAD and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Working in a variety of media – photography, video, drawing, installations, interior design and fashion – these talented individuals respond to the foremost principle of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement: humanity. That is, preventing and alleviating human suffering wherever it may be found.

Their work takes up a variety of themes, including complex and sensitive questions of identity, the body and the status of women, dignity, the ethical use of technology, migration, and information overload. They each present a unique perspective – rooted in their personal experience – on contemporary humanitarian principles and practice.

*Concerned* has also been given space in the Museum's permanent exhibition. Five of the show's artists – Zoé Aubry, Louise Hastings, Hugo Hemmi, Marta Revuelta and Dorian Sari – have been given carte blanche to "hack into" *The Humanitarian Adventure* and present a new work offering a fresh perspective on this topic.

“The works featured in *Concerned* reveal the extent to which young people are concerned with the challenges of today’s world,” says Julie Enckell Julliard, director of cultural development at HEAD and co-curator of the exhibition. “This generation is often depicted as being holed up in their bedrooms, glued to their smartphones. However, this exhibition demonstrates that the opposite is true: they are highly aware of today’s most pressing issues. I find that extremely powerful.”

### **The MICR at the crossroads of art and humanitarian action**

With *Concerned*, the MICR continues to grow and evolve. By serving as a civic forum, the Museum has become a place of memory and a space for creativity and dialogue about humanitarian issues, principles and practice. The MICR’s new strategy is guided by one fundamental question: what does humanitarian action mean for us all – here and now?

*Concerned* enables people from all walks of life – visitors, aid workers and artists – to come together and explore this question. In giving artists the opportunity to reflect on humanitarian action, the MICR wanted to encourage both the general public to do likewise and humanitarian workers to view their own contributions in a new light. This exhibition allows visitors to grasp the complexity of humanitarian action, consider other points of view and engage in dialogue, at different points in space and time. An international, cross-disciplinary online symposium will extend this process throughout the month of May, culminating in a publication.

### **Focus on the general public**

*Concerned* puts the public at the center of the dialogue between art and humanitarianism. Visitors will be able to interact with the works and even try their hand at co-creating them. Artists, designers, museum staff and humanitarian aid specialists will discuss with them, both onsite and online, with an eye to generating new insights and innovative thoughts on humanitarian issues. This is the hope of Pascal Hufschmid, director of the MICR and co-curator of the exhibition: “*Concerned* is the culmination of the work of a diverse group of talents, all of whom have contributed to the project. We want to foster dialogue between three key groups: the artists and designers, through interviews that accompany every work on display; humanitarian aid workers, who provide input about the most pressing issues they face in their work; and visitors, who, through their questions and comments, will enrich this project. With this approach, the MICR reaffirms its place at the crossroads of possibility, creation and collective understanding.”

### **Humanitarian Crises and Digital Dilemmas: an immersive experience**

Alongside the exhibition, the immersive experience [\*Humanitarian Crises and Digital Dilemmas\*](#) drops visitors into the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster or the outbreak of violent conflict. In an increasingly digital world, people in crisis zones are faced with new kinds of risks – something that visitors will be given the chance to discover for themselves.

The exhibition is co-curated by Julie Enckell Julliard (HEAD) and Pascal Hufschmid (MICR), in collaboration with Marie-Laure Berthier (MICR) and Sandra Sunier (MICR), with the participation of Philippe Stoll (ICRC).

**A digital press kit** including video clips, sound files and written texts is available for download from <https://www.redcrossmuseum.ch/en/presse/exposition-temporaire/> .

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**Concerned**

**30 Artists on Humanitarian Issues**

27 April to 26 September 2021

From Tuesday to Sunday

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**International Museum of the Red Cross and Red Crescent**

Av. de la Paix 17

1202 Geneva

Switzerland