

**Paul Klee is one of the best-loved artists of the 20th century. He was born near Bern, Switzerland, in 1879. He spent most of his career in Germany. He died in 1940.**

Whenever you are in Bern, take a number 12 bus to the Paul-Klee-Museum. It's a modern building. There you can see a large part of Klee's work (oil, water-colours, drawings and prints).



ILL. "ZENTRUM PAUL KLEE", PHOTO: LDs

Klee had a vivid imagination. He never repeated himself. Some of his paintings are purely abstract, but most of them are based on the things he saw around him. They are full of radiant colours and a joyous love of life.

Paul Klee's mother was Swiss. His German father was a music teacher at a Swiss teacher training college. Paul was interested in music. He was also interested in art. He studied Art in Munich. In 1914 he visited Tunisia with some friends. He was impressed by the colours. Later he worked at the famous Bauhaus art school in Germany.



Hitler came to power in 1933. The Nazis were against modern art and considered Paul Klee's work to be "the work of a sick mind". Klee had to leave his teaching post. He returned to Switzerland.



In the last five years of his life he suffered from a painful illness and was depressed by political events, as Europe went to war. Klee continued to paint superb pictures. But in them a grim humour often replaced the playful wit of his earlier work.

**vivid:** lebhaft  
**radiant:** strahlend  
**joyous:** fröhlich  
**consider:** betrachten  
**mind:** Geist, Verstand  
**suffer:** leiden  
**painful:** schmerzhaft  
**event:** Ereignis  
**superb:** prächtig  
**grim:** grimmig  
**wit:** Witz

## Translate:

Das Museum ist ein modernes Gebäude. ....

Kannst du die Dinge um dich herum sehen? .....

Interessierst du dich für Musik? .....

Ich bin von den Farben beeindruckt. ....

Er musste Deutschland verlassen. ....

Klee ist einer der berühmtesten Künstler des 20. Jahrhunderts. ....

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