

**Museum der  
Kulturen Basel**

**13 April 2018  
-21 April 2019**



# **SECRET**

**Who's Allowed to Know What**

EXHIBITION

# Secrecy – Who's Allowed to Know What

13 April 2018–21 April 2019

Secrecy regulates who gets to know what and under what conditions, thus separating the insiders from the outsiders. At times the boundaries are clear, at others more vague, but by all means negotiable. The exhibition focuses on secrecy as an instrument of social order and how it is handled in different cultural settings – a classic topic in anthropology that has recently received renewed attention under the impact of WikiLeaks and the extensive privacy debate.

The exhibited objects are bearers or markers of secrecy, they include, among others, masks belonging to so-called secret societies, documents written in secret codes, images of sacred mysteries, and chests equipped with hidden drawers. You get the chance to read secret love letters, hear about the thrills and throes of secrecy, even entrust to a special box a secret of your own. Kids follow a hidden path in search of a safe for which, however, they need a secret code.

But, psst, keep it to yourself!

The exhibition is accompanied by a publication of the same title in two language versions, published by Hatje Cantz Verlag.

ISBN 978-3-7757-4436-2 (German), ISBN 978-3-7757-4437-9 (English)

Museum der Kulturen Basel  
Münsterplatz 20, CH-4051 Basel  
T +41 61 266 56 00  
[www.mkb.ch](http://www.mkb.ch)

Opening hours:  
Tue–Sun: 10.00–17.00  
First Wednesday of the month:  
10.00–20.00

© MKB, photographer: Omar Lemke