

Geneva's art scene is facing some major – not entirely positive – changes. As the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung's* Marguerite Menz reports, the Centre pour l'Image Contemporaine (CIC) will soon close its doors, while the Centre de la Photographie (CPG) will merge in a reduced form with the Centre d'Art Contemporain (CAC) and MAMCO.

"In June 2006," writes Menz, "everything looked very different. In the Bâtiment d'Art Contemporain (BAC), the new halls – formerly occupied by the automobile museum Jean Tula–were opened. Finally, it seemed that the BAC +3 project was going to become a reality—a project that concentrates in one place, at the Quartier des Bains, the five most important contemporary art institutions subsidized by the city and in part by the canton."

Dividing up the BAC+3 pie became a problem when MAMCO wanted to take the biggest slice. While the CAC began to question the new plan, the first to react was the Centre pour l'Edition Contemporaine (CEC), which returned to its old space on the rue Saint-Léger after one year of exhibitions in the BAC. The CIC – whose video collection has been promised to MAMCO – sent out a petition to the municipal cultural adviser expressing concerns about the merger. The CPG also offered a petition against its integration into the CAC – a move that would greatly reduce its own exhibition program.

As Menz notes, facilitating an agreement between the different parties has not been easy because the project is not a pure state institution but rather funded by private sponsors, foundations, and associations. "Now," writes Menz, "the commission for art and culture in the municipal council has pulled the brakes and passed a motion that requires every political decision on this issue to be suspended for the time being. To be continued."