



## Walter B. Kielholz

Walter B. Kielholz studied business administration at the University of St. Gallen and began his professional career in 1976 at the General Reinsurance Corporation, Zurich. While there, he held various positions in the United States, Great Britain, and Italy before assuming responsibility for the company's European marketing. In 1986 he joined Credit Suisse, where he was in charge of customer relations for the major insurance corporations. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of Credit Suisse Group Ltd from 1999 to 2014 and served as a Chairman from 2003 to 2009.

In 1989 he joined Swiss Re, where he was appointed to the Executive Board in 1993; from 1997 to 2002 he served as Chief Executive Officer. Walter B. Kielholz was elected to the Board of Directors of Swiss Re in 1998. He held the position of Vice Chairman of the Board from 2003 until April 2009 and, since May 2009, has served as Chairman of the Board.

As Chairman of the Zürich Art Society, which runs the Kunsthaus Zürich museum, he dedicates himself with great zeal to visual art in the region and, among other efforts, has supported the expansion of the Kunsthaus. Walter B. Kielholz is moreover committed to art as an integral element of modern corporate culture. He has thus been a driving force in building up and developing the collection of modern art on display in Swiss Re's buildings all around the world.

For many years Walter B. Kielholz has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of LUCERNE FESTIVAL. Through his tireless commitment, dedication, and enthusiasm, he has been a powerfully active champion of culture and especially of LUCERNE FESTIVAL. Thanks to his extensive network and through his cosmopolitan attitude, he has played a substantial role in making the Festival an international presence. Without his aid, LUCERNE FESTIVAL, and by association the LUCERNE FESTIVAL ACADEMY, would not be what they are today.