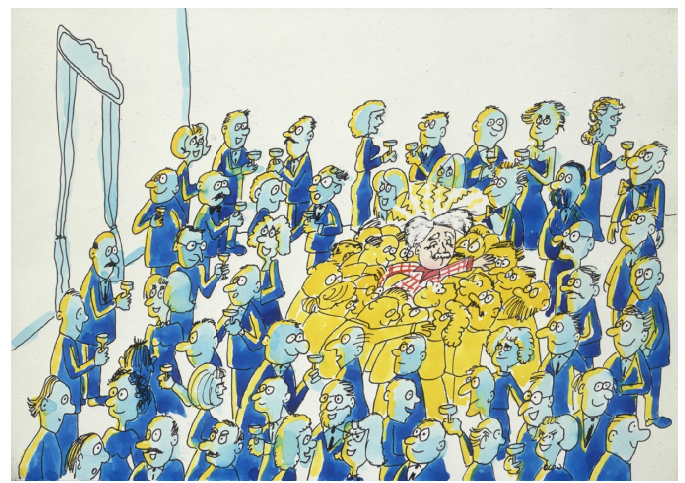
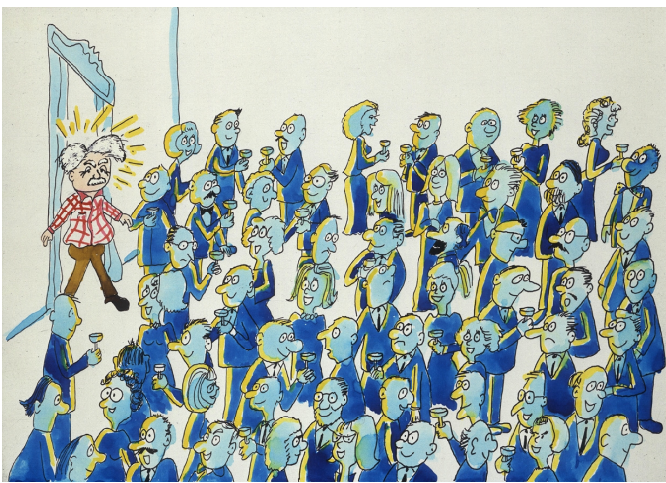


The Higgs Mechanism to give Particles Mass



To understand the Higgs mechanism, imagine that a room full of physicists quietly chattering is like space filled only with the Higgs field.



A well known scientist walks in, creating a disturbance as he moves across the room, and attracting a cluster of admirers with each step. This increases his resistance to movement, in other words, he acquires mass, just like a particle moving through the Higgs field.



If a rumour crosses the room, it creates the same kind of clustering, but this time among the scientists themselves. In this analogy, these clusters are the Higgs particles.