

# Art | Basel

## Miami Beach | Dec | 1-4 | 2016

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### PRESS RELEASE

MIAMI BEACH | NOVEMBER 9 | 2016

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#### Public: 20 international artists will exhibit installations in Collins Park

2016 marks the fourth year that Nicholas Baume, Director and Chief Curator of Public Art Fund, New York, will curate Public at Art Basel in Miami Beach. The theme 'Ground Control' will frame this year's selection, which includes over 20 site-specific works by established and emerging artists spanning 10 countries. Produced in collaboration with The Bass for the past six years, the sector will transform Miami Beach's Collins Park into an outdoor exhibition space with significant works by Magdalena Abakanowicz, David Adamo, Jean-Marie Appriou, Eric Baudart, Huma Bhabha, Yoan Capote, Claudia Comte, Matías Duville, Camille Henrot, Glenn Kaino, Alicja Kwade, Sol LeWitt, Wagner Malta Tavares, Tony Matelli, William J. O'Brien, Anthony Pearson, Norbert Prangenberg, Ugo Rondinone, Tony Tasset and Erwin Wurm.

The Public sector of Art Basel in Miami Beach, whose Lead Partner is UBS, will open on Wednesday, November 30 at 8pm with a special evening performance program featuring **Davide Balula**, **Lady Bunny**, **Rob Pruitt** and **Naama Tsabar**. The Public Opening Night is free of charge and open to the public.

Nicholas Baume's curatorial focus for the 2016 show will be 'Ground Control', inspired by David Bowie, who passed away earlier this year. Under this theme, the Public sector will examine ways in which artists invent and imagine new kinds of space: physical, social and psychic. Interpreting 'Ground Control' literally, the works will invite viewers into new relationships with familiar surroundings and reframe Collins Park into a site for transformational experiences with contemporary art.

Several works will challenge how visitors experience their surroundings through repurposed everyday objects. **Eric Baudart's** (b. 1972) 'Atmosphère' (2016) will feature a clear tank filled with yellow peanut oil, in which a fan slowly rotates. The reconfigured relationship between materials and scale is designed to physically overwhelm the viewer. **David Adamo** (b. 1979) will immortalize miscellaneous objects in a series of small bronze sculptures depicting such items as citrus fruits, flip flops, styrofoam cups and a sandwich from La Sandwicherie, the iconic Miami Beach fastfood stand. Similarly, 'Malpertuis' (2016) by multimedia artist **Wagner Malta Tavares** (b. 1964) will situate a typical 19th century outdoor lamp into the park landscape. While it will appear unremarkable during the day, the lamp will begin to glow as darkness falls, revealing that the lamp has been created from a light-absorbing fluorescent resin. Lastly, **Alicja Kwade** (b. 1979) will dismantle and reassemble a bicycle to create 'Reise ohne Ankunft (Mercier)' (2016), bent to form a perfect circle, suggesting a surreal never-ending journey.

'Naturaleza Urbana' (2012) by **Yoan Capote** (b. 1977) addresses urbanization and the clash between man and nature. The installation will comprise a large pair of bronze handcuffs and a key that will physically shackle together the bases of two trees – one large with a handcuff tight around its trunk, while the other is small enough that the closed handcuff will circle the base without touching it. The juxtaposition of the natural and industrial will continue with 'Arena Parking' (2016) by **Matías Duville** (b. 1974), a topographical installation created from pressed asphalt with a large-scale forged steel

ring in its center. **Jean-Marie Appriou's** (b. 1986) installation 'Mirage' (2016) will feature four aluminum cast sculptures of camels standing on their own reflections, as if in a mirage. Measuring nearly 3 meters, each camel will be almost life-size – significantly larger than previous work by the artist.

Geometric forms will also feature prominently in this year's Public sector, with three large baked-enamel on aluminum structures from **Sol LeWitt's** (b. 1928, d. 2007) series of 'Incomplete Open Cubes' (1974/90), as well as '156 Triangles and their Demonstration' (2016), a monumental wall construction covered in bright acrylic geometric patterns by **Claudia Comte** (b. 1983).

Two large sculptures in bronze, iron and copper by **Camille Henrot** (b. 1978) – 'Contrology' (2016) and 'Dropping the Ball' (2016) – will combine both figurative and abstract elements. Part of an ongoing series by the artist, the sculptures reflect the emotional and intellectual state of the first day of the week, Monday, when the mind may be both melancholic and hopeful. The human form will reoccur throughout the sector, including **Glenn Kaino's** (b. 1972) 'Invisible Man' (2016), a figure standing on a pedestal with his hands raised. The cast aluminum form will prompt viewers to consider how racial identity and race relations intersect with cultural hegemony, architecture and public art. **Tony Matelli's** (b. 1971) 'Jesus' (2016) will present a familiar figure cast in concrete, adorned with several painted bronze avocados. In '10 Standing Figures' (2000) by **Magdalena Abakanowicz** (b. 1930), a group of ten imposing, cast bronze figures will be arranged in rows to occupy a space on the lawn of Collins Park.

Public will debut **William J. O'Brien's** (b. 1975) first-ever outdoor sculpture, 'Untitled (The Protectors)' (2016), which references Mahakala, a wrathful deity in Tibetan Buddhism. **Huma Bhabha** (b. 1962) will present another totemic figure, 'Friend' (2015), a large-scale bronze sculpture cast from styrofoam, that stands more than two meters tall.

**Anthony Pearson** (b. 1969) envisions his work as drawings in space. Created by transposing a sketch into a photograph and then into a sculpture, Pearson's monumental 'Untitled (Transmission)' (2016) series is comprised of steel-cut sandblasted white Portland cement forms that are covered with a steel patina.

The inclusion of **Norbert Prangenberg's** (b. 1949, d. 2002) large-scale outdoor glazed ceramic sculpture 'Figur' (1999) in this year's show represents a defining moment for the sculptor as it is the first time his monumental sculpture is exhibited outside of Europe.

**Tony Tasset's** (b. 1960) monumental 'Arrow Sculpture' (2016) will depict a pair of larger than life arrows, one pointing up and the other pointing down. The largest piece from Tasset's ongoing series, the arrows will be painted in bright, contrasting colors meant to reference the art market and changing tastes. **Erwin Wurm's** 'Big Disobedience' (2016), inspired by Henry David Thoreau, will be another larger than life work. This piece will feature two figures that utilize clothing in place of the body to question societal obedience to political and social correctness.

Recently rebranded as The Bass, Miami Beach's contemporary art museum will present a towering work by **Ugo Rondinone** (b. 1964). Consisting of five brightly painted boulders stacked in the form of a contemporary cairn, 'Miami Mountain' (2016) finds its geological inspiration from 'hoodos', rock formations of North American badlands that have endured time and nature.

The opening night performances will likewise extend themes from Baume's curatorial premise. **Davide Balula's** (b. 1978) interactive performance will incorporate the preparation and distribution of a garlic infused beverage. Musicians, who will join guests in drinking the cocktail throughout the evening, will be positioned in the crowd with brass

instruments to randomly create human-like sounds. Elsewhere in the park, **Naama Tsabar** (b. 1982) will stage a new iteration of her ongoing Composition series. The coordinated actions of a sculptural-live field of musicians will create a dense yet not entirely cacophonous musical sound field. Legendary drag performer, DJ and founder of Wigstock **Lady Bunny** (b. 1962) will transform Collins Park Rotunda into a theatrical spaceship-disco tribute to David Bowie, while **Rob Pruitt** (b. 1964) will convert a vintage car into an all-in-one barbecue bar and lounge.

The exhibition in Collins Park will last through Sunday, December 4, 2016, although a selection of artworks will remain installed until March 15, 2017 as part of 'The Bass Projects'. Tours will be offered daily at 2pm starting from the On-site Info Point (no reservation required). Private, group and school-group tours will be offered by reservation.

#### **2016 Public artworks:**

**Magdalena Abakanowicz**, *10 Standing Figures*, 2000, **Marlborough Gallery**

**David Adamo**, *Untitled*, 2016, **Peter Freeman, Inc.**

**Jean-Marie Appriou**, *Mirage*, 2016, **Clearing**

**Eric Baudart**, *Atmosphère*, 2016, **Edouard Malingue Gallery**

**Huma Bhabha**, *Friend*, 2015, **Salon 94**

**Yoan Capote**, *Naturaleza Urbana*, 2012, **Jack Shainman Gallery**

**Claudia Comte**, *156 Triangles and their Demonstration*, 2016, **König Galerie, Gladstone Gallery**

**Matías Duville**, *Arena Parking*, 2016, **Revolver Galería**

**Camille Henrot**, *Contrology and Dropping the Ball*, 2016, **Metro Pictures, kamel mennour, König Galerie**

**Glenn Kaino**, *Invisible Man*, 2016, **Kavi Gupta**

**Alicja Kwade**, *Reise ohne Ankunft (Mercier)*, 2016, **König Galerie**

**Sol LeWitt**, *Incomplete Open Cube 8/9*, 1974; *Incomplete Open Cube 5/1*, 1974; *Incomplete Open Cube 8/5*, 1974, **Paula Cooper Gallery**

**Wagner Malta Tavares**, *Malpertuis*, 2016, **Galeria Marília Razuk**

**Tony Matelli**, *Jesus*, 2016, **Marlborough Gallery**

**William J. O'Brien**, *Untitled (The Protectors)*, 2016, **Marianne Boesky Gallery**

**Anthony Pearson**, *Untitled (Transmission)*, 2016, **Marianne Boesky Gallery**

**Norbert Prangenberg**, *Figur*, 1999, **Garth Greenan Gallery**

**Ugo Rondinone**, *Miami Mountain*, 2016, **The Bass**

**Tony Tasset**, *Arrow Sculpture*, 2016, **Kavi Gupta**

**Erwin Wurm**, *Big Disobedience*, 2016, **Lehmann Maupin**

#### **Public opening night performances:**

**Davide Balula**, *Interrupting Words with Burp Sounds*, 2014-2016, **rodolphe janssen, galerie frank elbaz, Gagosian Gallery, François Ghebaly Gallery**

**Lady Bunny**, *Lady Bunny's Intergalactic Disco*

**Rob Pruitt**, *Stretch, Grill and Chill*, 2016, **Gavin Brown's enterprise, Massimo De Carlo**

**Naama Tsabar**, *Composition 18*, 2016, **Paul Kasmin Gallery, Spinello Projects**

Public is produced in collaboration with The Bass and supported by MGM Resorts Art & Culture. More information on the sector is available at [artbasel.com/miami-beach/public](http://artbasel.com/miami-beach/public).

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

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### **About Nicholas Baume**

Nicholas Baume joined Public Art Fund as Director and Chief Curator in 2009. A native of Australia, his curatorial career began there with Kaldor Public Art Projects and later the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney. He was Contemporary Curator at the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, Connecticut, before moving to Boston to join the Institute of Contemporary Art as Chief Curator. Baume has curated more than fifty exhibitions with a wide range of significant international artists at different stages of their careers. Author of several major exhibition catalogs, he is a frequent public speaker on contemporary art, and has contributed essays and interviews to numerous publications.

### **About The Bass**

The Bass, Miami Beach's contemporary art museum, is currently undergoing an institutional transformation. With over 10,000 additional square feet of exhibition space in its newly renovated facility, The Bass will continue its commitment to contemporary exhibitions by leading international artists. The museum's 'IDEAS at The Bass' art and literacy curriculum serves over 10,000 annually through classes, workshops, 'Community Days' and its outreach program, 'Creativity in the Community'. The Bass will unveil its latest acquisition, a large-scale sculpture by Ugo Rondinone entitled Miami Mountain on Wednesday, November 30 at 6pm in Collins Park, as the museum looks ahead to its re-opening in spring 2017.

### **About Art Basel**

Founded in 1970 by gallerists from Basel, Art Basel today stages the world's premier art shows for Modern and contemporary art, sited in Basel, Miami Beach, and Hong Kong. Defined by its host city and region, each show is unique, as reflected in its participating galleries, the artworks presented, and the parallel programming produced in collaboration with local institutions for each edition.

In recent years, Art Basel's art-world engagement has expanded beyond art fairs. In 2014, Art Basel launched its Crowdfunding Initiative, in collaboration with Kickstarter, which has helped catalyze much-needed support for outstanding non-commercial art projects, resulting in pledges over \$1 million to creative projects from all over the world. For Art Basel Cities, launched in 2016, Art Basel will work with selected partner cities to develop vibrant and content-driven programs specific to the individual city. Connecting them to the global art world through Art Basel's expertise and network, Art Basel Cities supports its partner cities in developing their unique cultural landscape. The first city Art Basel is partnering with for Art Basel Cities is Buenos Aires. For further information, please visit [artbasel.com](http://artbasel.com).

### **Selection Committee in Miami Beach**

The Selection Committee for Art Basel's show in Miami Beach is comprised of renowned international gallerists: Tim Blum, Blum & Poe; Chantal Crousel, Galerie Chantal Crousel; Peter Freeman, Peter Freeman, Inc.; José Kuri, kurimanzutto; Friedrich Petzel, Petzel Gallery; and Mary Sabbatino, Galerie Lelong. The experts for the Nova and Positions sectors are Márcio Botner, A Gentil Carioca; Oliver Newton, 47 Canal; and Tanya Leighton, Tanya Leighton. The expert for the Florida galleries is Fredric Snitzer, Fredric Snitzer Gallery.

### **Partners**

UBS, global Lead Partner of Art Basel, has supported the organization for more than 20 years. As Art Basel's global network expanded, UBS increased its lead partnership to include all three shows: Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong. In addition, UBS has a long and substantial record of engagement in contemporary art: as a holder of one of the

world's most distinguished corporate art collections, as an active partner in global contemporary art projects such as the Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative, and as a source of information and insights through the UBS Art Competence Center, UBS Arts Forum and its new contemporary art news-focused app, 'Planet Art'.

Art Basel's Associate Partners, supporting all three shows, are Davidoff – the prestigious Swiss cigar brand, whose Davidoff Art Initiative encompasses residencies, art dialogs and grants; Audemars Piguet – the independent high-end watch manufacturer, whose expanding activities in contemporary art include the Audemars Piguet Art Commission; and NetJets – the world leader in private aviation. BMW, the renowned car manufacturer, has co-developed with Art Basel the BMW Art Journey, enabling the winning artist to design a journey of creative discovery. Art Basel is also supported globally by Ruinart, Official Champagne Partner, and Sennheiser, Official Audio Partner.

MGM Resorts Art & Culture, partner of Art Basel's Public sector this year, has a long-held commitment to the arts, showcased throughout the company's resorts around the globe. Each art project that MGM Resorts Art & Culture has realized over the years, carefully considers the artist, the environment and the overall experience. For further information, please visit [mgmresorts.com/artandculture](http://mgmresorts.com/artandculture).

Art Basel's show in Miami Beach is additionally supported as Show Partner by Douglas Elliman Development Marketing, the leading sales and marketing firm of luxury residential new development properties. Art Basel in Miami Beach welcomes MGM Resorts Art & Culture as the Official Partner of the Public Sector and Kanna as the Official Furniture Partner. Art Basel in Miami Beach's Official Hotel Partners are Nautilus, a Sixty Hotel, W South Beach and The Confidante Miami Beach. Art Basel's Media Partners are The Financial Times and Miami Herald. For further information about partnerships, please visit [artbasel.com/partners](http://artbasel.com/partners).

### **Important Dates for Media**

#### **Media Reception**

Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 9.30am, Auditorium, Entrance Lobby C

#### **Private View**

Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 11am to 8pm (by invitation only)

#### **Vernissage**

Thursday, December 1, 2016, 11am to 3pm (by invitation only)

#### **Public opening dates and hours:**

Thursday, December 1, 2016, 3pm to 8pm

Friday, December 2, 2016, 12noon to 8pm

Saturday, December 3, 2016, 12noon to 8pm

Sunday, December 4, 2016, 12noon to 6pm

#### **Press accreditation:**

Online press accreditation is now open.

Please note that as of 2016 press accreditation for our show in Miami Beach is taking place online. Therefore it is important to register and apply online before coming to the fair. Please visit [artbasel.com/accreditation](http://artbasel.com/accreditation).

**Upcoming Art Basel shows**

Miami Beach, December 1-4, 2016

Hong Kong, March 23-25, 2017

Basel, June 15-18, 2017

**Media information online**

Media information and images can be downloaded directly from [artbasel.com/press](http://artbasel.com/press).

Journalists can subscribe to our media mailings to receive information on Art Basel.

For the latest updates on Art Basel, visit [artbasel.com](http://artbasel.com), find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/artbasel](https://facebook.com/artbasel) or follow @artbasel on Instagram, Google+, Twitter, Weibo and Wechat.

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