
PRESS RELEASE**BASEL | MARCH 22 | 2017**

Artist shortlist for the BMW Art Journey announced during Art Basel in Hong Kong

Already in its third year Art Basel and BMW continue their joint initiative to recognize and support emerging artists worldwide. Like a mobile studio, the BMW Art Journey can take artists almost anywhere in the world to develop new ideas and envision new creative projects. Today, an expert jury announced the next shortlist consisting of three artists showing in Discoveries, the sector for emerging artists, at Art Basel's Hong Kong show: Astha Butail, Julian Charrière and Lin Ke.

Astha Butail at GALLERYYSKE, Bangalore, New Delhi

Astha Butail, born in 1977 in Amritsar, India, lives and works in Gurgaon. Central to her artistic practice is the use of geometry as a means of inquiry to understand how different composite elements of an entity relate to its whole. Her themes are memory and time, the idea of the archive and collaborative authorship. At this year's Art Basel in Hong Kong, Butail is presenting her work titled 'Turning towards pure white' (2017) including an assemblage of wall and floor based elements as well as framed panels, three-dimensional pieces extruded from the picture plane and a participatory book. Butail's debut solo exhibition was shown at GALLERYYSKE, Bangalore. Recent group exhibitions include Experimenter, Kolkata, Devi Art Foundation, Gurgaon and Masquelibros Artists Book Fair, Madrid.

Julian Charrière at Dittrich & Schlechtriem, Berlin

Born in 1987 in Morges, Switzerland, Julian Charrière lives and works in Berlin. He studied at the Berlin University of Arts. Charrière's artistic practice includes performance, sculpture and photography. His projects often stem from fieldwork in remote locations with acute geophysical identities such as volcanoes, ice-fields and radioactive sites. At Art Basel in Hong Kong Charrière is presenting his work 'Coconut Lead Fondue' (2016), consisting of a series of large format photographs, two vitrine sculptures and an installation. Charrière's solo exhibitions include Sean Kelly, New York, Sies + Höke, Dusseldorf and Musée Cantonal Des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne. The artist has exhibited in recent group shows at KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna and will exhibit at the 2017 Biennale in Venice.

Lin Ke at BANK, Shanghai

Born in 1984 in Wenzhou, China, Lin Ke lives and works in Beijing. He graduated from the New Media Arts Department of the China Academy of Art in 2008 and received the OCAT - Pierre Huber Art Prize in 2014 and the Chinese Youth Artist Award of the 9th AAC Art 2015. At Art Basel in Hong Kong, the artist is presenting 'Like Me' (2016), a video recording of a performance and two image based works, showing his exploration of the variety of the World Wide Web, such as applications functioning as catalyst for making art and self-portraiture. Ke's work has been exhibited at Zentrum für Kunst und Medien (ZKM), Karlsruhe, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo and the 11th Shanghai Biennial.

These three shortlisted artists are now invited to develop a proposal for their ideal journey, with the winner to be announced in the early summer of 2017.

The members of the expert jury in Hong Kong are:

Claire Hsu, Director Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong

Bose Krishnamachari, President Kochi-Muziris Biennale, India

Matthias Mühling, Director Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus and Kunstbau, Munich

Alexandra Munroe, Senior Curator of Asian Art, and Senior Advisor, Global Arts, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York

Pauline J. Yao, Curator Visual Art M+, Hong Kong

'This group represents the exceptionally strong selection of artists featured in this year's Discoveries Sector, which was distinguished by the participation of adventurous young artists and galleries from around the globe. As a jury, we made a unanimous decision about the three shortlisted artists, while acknowledging the many powerful works and installations on display. These three artists represent a broad diversity of art practices – from photography, post-internet and digital aesthetics, and installation. Each artist is connected to a particular history, school and tradition, and they come from very different parts of the world. We eagerly look forward to reading their proposals for the BMW Art Journey,' states the jury.

During this year's show in Hong Kong, British artist **Abigail Reynolds** (represented by Rokeby, London), one of the BMW Art Journey winners in 2016, presents an installation of work made in response to her epic journey 'The Ruins of Time: Lost Libraries of the Silk Road'. Reynolds' journey took her to sites dating from 291 BC to 2011 across China, Egypt, Italy, Iran, Turkey, and Uzbekistan. Along the way, Reynolds gathered material in various forms including 16mm film, photography, microscopic imagery, written text, plans and cataloguing systems. Based on this extensive research, she has created a cluster of objects, structures and moving-image works, the latter being her first attempt to work in this medium on display in the BMW Lounge. Images, texts and other documents originating from the experience will be included in a book – thus completing a journey that both starts and ends with the institution of the library.

BMW is a global partner of Art Basel and has supported Art Basel's three shows in Basel, Miami Beach, and Hong Kong for many years. For further information about the BMW Art Journey, please visit bmw-art-journey.com.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About the BMW Art Journey

Launched in 2015, the BMW Art Journey is a collaboration between Art Basel and BMW, created to recognize and support emerging artists worldwide. The prize is open to artists who are exhibiting in Discoveries and Positions in the Hong Kong and Miami Beach respectively. Two judging panels, comprised of internationally renowned experts, shortlist three artists, who are then invited to submit proposals for a journey aimed to further develop their ideas and artistic work. The jury then reconvenes to choose a winner from the three proposals. For further information on the BMW Art Journey please visit: bmw-art-journey.com.

Past winners of the BMW Art Journey include sound and performance artist **Samson Young** (presented by a.m. Space, Hong Kong at Art Basel's Hong Kong show in 2015), who will represent Hong Kong at the 2017 Venice Biennale; German video artists **Henning Fehr** and **Philipp Rühr** (presented by Galerie Max Mayer, Dusseldorf at Art Basel's Miami Beach show in 2015); British artist **Abigail Reynolds** (presented by Rokeby, London at Art Basel's show in Hong Kong in 2016) as well as **Max Hooper**

Schneider who was recently announced as the fourth winner (presented by High Art, Paris at Art Basel's Miami Beach show in 2016).

About BMW Group's Cultural Commitment

For almost 50 years now, the BMW Group has initiated and engaged in over 100 cultural co-operations worldwide. The company places the main focus of its long-term commitment on contemporary and modern art, classical music and jazz as well as architecture and design. In 1972, three large-scale paintings were created by the artist Gerhard Richter specifically for the foyer of the BMW Group's Munich headquarters. Since then, artists such as Andy Warhol, Jeff Koons, Daniel Barenboim, Jonas Kaufmann and architect Zaha Hadid have co-operated with BMW. Currently, female artist Cao Fei from China and American artist John Baldessari are creating the next two vehicles for the BMW Art Car Collection. Besides co-initiatives, such as BMW Tate Live, the BMW Art Journey and the 'Opera for All' concerts in Berlin, Munich and London, the company also partners with leading museums and art fairs as well as orchestras and opera houses around the world. The BMW Group takes absolute creative freedom in all its cultural activities – as this initiative is as essential for producing groundbreaking artistic work as it is for major innovations in a successful business. For further information please visit bmwgroup.com/culture and bmwgroup.com/culture/overview.

About The BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 31 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy. For further information please visit bmwgroup.com.

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, which is reflected in its participating galleries, artworks presented, and the content of parallel programming produced in collaboration with local institutions for each edition.

Art Basel's engagement has expanded beyond art fairs through a number of new initiatives. In 2014, Art Basel launched its Crowdfunding Initiative, in collaboration with Kickstarter. This initiative presents jury-selected art projects to potential benefactors, which include Art Basel's vibrant audience and the Kickstarter community. The initiative has catalyzed much-needed support for outstanding non-commercial art projects worldwide and so far has helped pledge over \$1.4 million to creative projects around the world. For Art Basel Cities, launched in 2016, Art Basel is working 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 partners to develop their unique cultural landscape. For further information please visit artbasel.com.

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. Additionally, Art Basel is supported globally by Ruinart, Official Champagne Partner, and Sennheiser, Official Audio Partner. Art Basel's Media Partner is The Financial Times. For further information about partnerships, please visit artbasel.com/partners.

Upcoming Art Basel shows

Hong Kong, March 23-25, 2017

Basel, June 15-18, 2017

Miami Beach, December 7-10, 2017

Press accreditation for the Hong Kong show:

Online registration for press accreditation is now open. Please visit artbasel.com/accreditation.

Media information online

Media information and images can be downloaded directly from 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, find us on Facebook at facebook.com/artbasel or follow @artbasel on Instagram, Google+, Twitter, Weibo and Wechat.

Press Contacts

Art Basel, Dorothee Dines

Tel. +41 58 206 27 06, press@artbasel.com

PR Representatives for Asia

SUTTON, Erica Siu Tel. +852 2528 0792, erica@suttonpr.com

PR Representatives for Europe

SUTTON, Catharina van Beuningen

Tel. +44 20 7183 3577, catie@suttonpr.com

PR Representatives for North and South America, the Middle East and Africa

FITZ & CO, Simon Warren

Tel. +1 646 589 0922, swarren@fitzandco.com