

# Art | Basel

## Basel | June | 15–18 | 2017

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### PRESS RELEASE

BASEL | APRIL 25 | 2017

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#### Film: Art Basel announces details of its 2017 program in Basel

Art Basel will screen a premier program of 34 film and video works presented by the show's participating galleries. The Film program is curated for the third consecutive year by Cairo-based film curator **Maxa Zoller**, and will include a special screening of **Stanley Tucci's 'Final Portrait' (2017)**, selected by New York-based film curator **Marian Masone**. Program highlights include works by **John Akomfrah**, **Kader Attia**, **Eric Baudelaire**, **He Xiangyu**, **Ana Mendieta**, **Ugo Rondinone** and **Andy Warhol** among others. **Filipa César's** new work **'Spell Reel'** will be shown as part of Art Basel's collaboration with the **Locarno Festival**, now in its third year. Art Basel, whose Lead Partner is **UBS**, will take place at **Messe Basel** from **June 15 to June 18, 2017**.

Heavily influenced by today's political events, **Maxa Zoller's** program gives a glimpse into various international themes, presenting a varied selection of experimental films by a broad range of artists and filmmakers. 'The poetic beauty of these films that examine topical issues such as terrorism, racism and failed revolutions are at once utterly uplifting and deeply thought-provoking,' said Maxa Zoller. 'It was a pleasure to curate this program and to encounter such strong, intelligent films, which shed a brighter light on an ever more conflicted society.'

The Film program will open on Monday, June 12 with **'Also Known As Jihadi'** (2017), the latest feature-length film by French-American artist **Eric Baudelaire** (b. 1973), tracing the journey of young **Abdel Aziz** from his hometown in France to Syria. As the audience is captured by tranquil suburban and rural scenes along the route, the idyllic landscapes are gradually interrupted with excerpts from court documents and police reports, making it apparent that Aziz has joined Islamic State and helped to radicalize other young people. The film never shows its protagonist's face however, viewer sees what Aziz sees – creating a particular closeness to him. The screening will be followed by a Q&A between **Eric Baudelaire** and **Maxa Zoller**.

On Tuesday, June 13, the program will feature the European premiere of **He Xiangyu's** (b. 1986) new film **'The Swim'** (2017), which follows the artist on his return to his native city **Kuandian** on the border between China and North Korea. Offering complex and intriguing insights into this changed environment, he interviews veterans of the Korean War as well as defectors from North Korea, presenting a conflicting account of his hometown despite the picturesque landscapes portrayed.

As part of its collaboration with Art Basel, the **Locarno Festival** will present **Filipa César's** (b. 1975) **'Spell Reel'** (2017) on Thursday, June 15. **'Spell Reel'** is the result of a multi-layered research and digitalization project that César initiated in 2011 with film directors **Sana Na N'Hada** and **Flora Gomes**. César's film brings together restored vintage film from **N'Hada** and **Gomes'** documentations of the liberation struggles in **Guinea Bissau**, incorporating new footage and commentary from their return to these remote locations. The screening will be followed by a Q&A between **Filipa César** and **Sergio Fant**, programmer of the **Locarno Festival**.

Selected by **Marian Masone** in anticipation of its international release, a special screening of **Stanley Tucci's** (b. 1960) **'Final Portrait'** (2017) will take place on Saturday, June 17. Featuring Australian actor **Geoffrey Rush**, **'Final Portrait'** peers into the workshop and

personality of Swiss painter and sculptor **Alberto Giacometti** (1901-1966), two years prior to his death. In his fifth film as a director, actor Stanley Tucci shows how the artist's strengths and weaknesses relate to the chaos of his artistic output, doubts and courageous ability to destroy and begin afresh.

The Short Film program will commence on Monday, June 12 with 'Phantom Limbs', presenting works by Egyptian artist **Maha Maamoun** (b. 1972) and French artist **Kader Attia** (b. 1970), exploring the theme of phantom pain, both metaphorically and as a medical phenomenon. This will be followed on Tuesday, June 13 by 'Little Films to Smile to: Focus on Breda Beban', offering a rare opportunity to see multiple works by the late Yugoslavian-born filmmaker **Breda Beban** (1952-2012), whose works often centred around interpersonal relationships and the experience of living in exile.

Further Short Film program highlights on Wednesday, June 14 include: 'Earth Tales: The Politics of Soil', featuring seven films by artists including **Zineb Sedira** (b. 1963), **Filipa César** (b. 1975) and **Mohau Modisakeng** (b. 1986), whose works concentrate on the conquest, exploitation and recapture of African territories. In a nod to Jean Cocteau's surrealist 1930s film 'The Blood of a Poet', Maxa Zoller brings together works by **William E. Jones** (b. 1962) and **Ugo Rondinone** (b. 1964), which focus on the leitmotifs of death, homoeroticism and **Andy Warhol**.

In 'Force Fields', presented on Friday, June 16, two forms of energy are exposed and questioned – the philosophy of Nikolai Fyodorovich Fyodorov, an instigator of the Russian Cosmist movement, and magnetism in the theory of consciousness of the Mexican scientist Jacobo Grinberg. Artists **Anton Vidokle** (b.1965) and **François Bucher** (b.1972), from Russia and Colombia respectively, propose alternative epistemologies in order to question our relationship to reality in the late phase of (Post) Modernism. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Anton Vidokle and Maxa Zoller. Also on Friday, 'Black and Blue' will present four short films voicing artists' reactions to racially motivated violence and today's debates surrounding racism. The program concludes with a documentation of **Robin Rhode's** (b. 1976) contemporary take on Arnold Schönberg's expressionist 'Erwartung' (Expectation), which he restaged in New York's Time Square.

Screened at Stadtkino Basel, the Film program will run from Monday, June 12 to Saturday, June 17, 2017.

For the full gallery list for Film, please visit: [artbasel.com/basel/film](http://artbasel.com/basel/film).

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## DETAILED FILM PROGRAM

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### Monday, June 12, 2017

#### 8pm | Eric Baudelaire: *Also Known As Jihadi*

Running time 99'. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Eric Baudelaire and Maxa Zoller.

**Eric Baudelaire**, *Also Known As Jihadi*, 99', 2017, **Barbara Wien, Galería Juana de Aizpuru, Galerie Greta Meert**

#### 10.15pm | Short Film program: *Phantom Limbs*

Running time 72'

**Maha Maamoun**, *Dear Animal*, 24', 2016, **Gypsum Gallery**  
**Kader Attia**, *Reflecting Memory*, 48', 2016, **Galleria Continua**

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

**8pm | He Xiangyu: *The Swim***

Running time 96', The screening will be followed by a Q&A with He Xiangyu and Maxa Zoller

**He Xiangyu, *The Swim*, 96', 2017, White Cube**

**10.15pm | Short Film program: *Little Films to Smile to: Focus on Breda Beban***

Running time 67'

**Breda Beban, *Jason's Dream*, 10', 1997**

**Breda Beban, *May 98*, 10', 1998**

**Breda Beban, *My Funeral Song: Dusan*, 7', 2008-2010**

**Breda Beban, *My Funeral Song: Irena*, 6'26", 2008-2010**

**Breda Beban, *Angel* (from *Little Films to Cry to*), 12'30", 2003**

**Breda Beban, *Walk of Three Chairs*, 10', 2003**

**Breda Beban, *Let's Call It Love*, 7'30", 2000**

**Breda Beban, *Monastic Calling* (from *Little Films to Cry to*), 6', 2003**

**Breda Beban, *Imagination is Funny* (from *Little Films to Cry to*), 5'20", 2003**

**Breda Beban, *Love Itself* (from *Little Films to Cry to*), 6'20", 2003**

**All films are presented by Kalfayan Galleries and the Estate of the Artist**

**Wednesday, June 14, 2017**

**8pm | Short Film program: *Earth Tales: The Politics of Soil***

Running time 62'

**Ana Mendieta, *Untitled: Silueta Series*, 3'14", 1978, Alison Jacques Gallery, Galerie Lelong**

**Zineb Sedira, *Les Terres de mon Père*, 6', 2016, kamel mennour**

**Filipa César, *Mined Soil*, 33', 2015, Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art**

**Mohau Modisakeng, *To Move Mountains*, 9', 2015, Jenkins Johnson Gallery**

**Edgardo Aragón, *La Encomienda (The Assignment)*, 4'45", 2012**

**La Ribot, *Travelling Olga / Travelling Giles*, 3'37", 2003**

**Ana Mendieta, *Birth (Gunpowder Works)*, 2'59", 1981, Alison Jacques Gallery, Galerie Lelong**

**10pm | Short Film program: *The Blood of a Poet***

Running time 78'

**William E. Jones, *Fall into Ruin*, 30', 2017, David Kordansky Gallery, The Modern Institute**

**Ugo Rondinone, *thanx 4 nothing*, 19'48", 2015, Esther Schipper, Galerie Eva**

**Presenhuber, Gladstone Gallery, Sadie Coles HQ**

**Andy Warhol, *Sunset*, 33', 1967**

**Thursday, June 15, 2017**

**8pm | Locarno Festival Special Screening | Filipa César: *Spell Reel***

Running time 96'. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Filipa César and Sergio Fant, programmer of the Locarno Festival.

**Filipa César, *Spell Reel*, 96', 2017, Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art**

**10.15pm | John Akomfrah: *The Stuart Hall Project***

Running time 95'

**John Akomfrah, *The Stuart Hall Project*, 95', 2013, Lisson Gallery**

**Friday, June 16, 2017**

**8pm | Short Film program: *Force Fields***

Running time 90'. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Anton Vidokle and Maxa Zoller.

**François Bucher, *The Man Who Disappeared*, 26', 2011, joségarcía ,mx**

**Anton Vidokle, *This is Cosmos*, 28'10", 2014, Vitamin Creative Space**

**Anton Vidokle, *The Communist Revolution Was Caused By The Sun*, 33'36", 2015,**

**Vitamin Creative Space**

**10.15pm | Short Film program: *Black and Blue***

Running time 90'

**Carrie Mae Weems, *People of a Darker Hue*, 14'58", 2016, Jack Shainman Gallery**

**Carlos Javier Ortiz, *We All We Got*, 9', 2014, Jenkins Johnson Gallery**

**William E. Jones, *Shoot Don't Shoot*, 2012, 4'33", David Kordansky Gallery, The Modern Institute**

**Robin Rhode, *Erwartung*, 33', 2015, Lehmann Maupin**

**Saturday, June 17, 2017**

**8pm | Special Screening selected by Marian Masone | Stanley Tucci: *Final Portrait***

Running time 90'

**Stanley Tucci, *Final Portrait*, 90', 2017, selected by Marian Masone**

#### **Admission**

Film tickets are CHF 17.

Holder of Art Basel VIP cards, Art Basel tickets and exhibitor passes can pick up a free ticket at the Stadtkino Basel box office. The Stadtkino Basel box office opens 30 minutes prior to the screenings. As seating is limited, please email [film@artbasel.com](mailto:film@artbasel.com) for advance ticket reservation or visit the Film information desk at Art Basel, entrance area of Hall 2.

#### **Address**

Stadtkino Basel, Klostersgasse 5, 4051 Basel

Tram number 1 (direction SBB) or 2 (direction Binningen) from Messeplatz to Bankverein. From Bankverein it is a three-minute walk to Stadtkino.

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

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### **About Maxa Zoller**

Dr Maxa Zoller works as a film curator and lectures at the American University in Cairo. Zoller has presented various experimental film screenings at Tate Modern, South London Gallery, no.w.here, the Munich Filmmuseum and the Centre of Contemporary Art in Geneva. In 2014 she co-curated a major solo exhibition of Anthony McCall at EYE Filmmuseum in Amsterdam. A former lecturer at Goldsmiths College and Sotheby's Institute of Art, Zoller developed a keen interest in alternative pedagogical tools; she created the workshop series 'The Cinematic Body' for the artist-run space no.w.here in London where she also led the first edition of the summer school in 2012. In her writings for MIT, IB Tauris, JRP-Ringier and Hatje Verlag she covered topics ranging from post-socialist identity discourse and feminism to her academic expertise – the history of Western avant-garde and experimental film, its contexts of exhibition and its historiography. Her current research interests regard the relationship between textile theory and contemporary art.

### **About Marian Masone**

Marian Masone is a film curator based in New York. For over 25 years Masone worked at the Film Society of Lincoln Center, one of America's pre-eminent film organizations where she sat on the selection committees for 'New Directors/New Films', produced with the Museum of Modern Art in New York and 'The New York Film Festival'. Masone is on the film panel of the Princess Grace Foundation, awarding fellowships to young artists, and is a member of Women in Film's preservation fund. She has been a guest lecturer and curator for leading institutions such as Parsons School of Design in New York and Museo Reina Sofia in Madrid. Her writings on film and media have appeared in leading newspapers and magazines.

### **About the Locarno Festival**

Throughout its 70 year history, the Locarno Festival has occupied a unique position in the landscape of the major film festivals. Every August the Swiss-Italian town of Locarno becomes the world capital of auteur cinema. Film fans and industry professionals from all around the globe meet on the Piazza Grande every summer to share their new discoveries and a passion for cinema in all its diversity. For further information, please visit [pardo.ch](http://pardo.ch).

### **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](http://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 as Official Champagne Partner.

The Art Basel show in Basel has a partnership with Baloise Group, whose Art Prize is awarded to up to two artists exhibiting in the Statements sector. Joining the show for the first time as a partner is La Prairie, the premier luxury skincare. Further Partners of the Basel show are AXA ART, Vienna Tourist Board, ARVI and Mobimex. Art Basel's Media Partner is The Financial Times. For further information about partnerships, please visit [artbasel.com/partners](http://artbasel.com/partners).

## **Important Dates for Media**

### **Preview (by invitation):**

Tuesday June 13, 2017 and Wednesday June 14, 2017

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

Thursday June 15, 2017 – Sunday June 18, 2017: 11am-7pm

### **Press accreditation:**

Online registration for press accreditation is now open. Please apply online before coming to the fair at: [artbasel.com/accreditation](http://artbasel.com/accreditation).

### **Upcoming Art Basel shows**

Basel, June 15-18, 2017

Miami Beach, December 7-10, 2017

Hong Kong, March 29-31, 2018

### **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.

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