
PRESS RELEASE
BASEL | MAY 25 | 2017

Conversations: Art Basel's 2017 program

Conversations, Art Basel's talks series, will once more bring together leading artists, gallerists, collectors, art historians, curators, museum directors and critics from across the world. Programmed for the third year by Mari Spirito, Founding Director and Curator of Protocinema, Conversations offers a platform for dialogues and discussions on current topics, offering perspectives on producing, collecting and exhibiting art. The 23 talks will feature prominent art world figures including Dr. Maria Balshaw, Candice Breitz, Julian Charrière, Elmgreen & Dragset, Cécile B. Evans, Carlos Garaicoa, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, Ekaterina Inozemtseva, Kasper König, Annette Messenger, Frances Morris, Zanele Muholi, Claes Nordenhake, Aparna Rao, Beatrix Ruf, Wilhelm Schürmann, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Stanley Whitney and Vadim Zakharov, among many others. Art Basel, whose Lead Partner is UBS, takes place at Messe Basel from June 15 to June 18, 2017.

Art Basel's Conversations series – formerly titled Conversations and Salon – begins on Wednesday, June 14 with the Premiere Artist Talk, devoted to **Annette Messenger** (b. 1943) and moderated by Dr. **Maria Balshaw**, Director of Tate, United Kingdom as of June 1. As part of a biennale talk on the same day, **Gabi Ngcobo**, Curator, 10th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art and **Elmgreen & Dragset**, Artists, and Curators, 15th Istanbul Biennial, Berlin will be discussing 'Two Approaches: The Postcolonial & The Personal' in their two upcoming Biennials to be moderated by **Georgina Adam**, Art Market Editor-at-large, The Art Newspaper, London. The series of Conversations will continue on Thursday, June 15 with a debate focusing on 'New Rules: Is the Artworld a Mature Industry?'. The discussion will be moderated by **András Szántó**, Author and Cultural Consultant, New York and will bring together a panel of speakers including **Lindsay Pollock**, Former Editor-in-Chief of Art in America, New York; **Adam Sheffer**, Partner at Cheim & Read and President, Art Dealers Association of America, New York; **Bob Rennie**, Collector and Principal, Rennie Collection, Vancouver; **Olav Velthuis**, Professor at the Department of Sociology of the University of Amsterdam and President of TIAMSA and **Pierre Valentin**, Partner Constantine Cannon LLP, London.

Invited to discuss the complexities of museum development in the talk 'Reconsidering Museum Growth' will be **Beatrix Ruf**, Director, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam and **Frances Morris**, Director, Tate Modern with the talk moderated by **Nina Siegal**, Freelance Contributor, The New York Times, Amsterdam. Initiated and moderated by **Hans Ulrich Obrist**, Artistic Director, Serpentine Galleries, London, this year's 'Artists' Influencers' talk on Friday, June 16 will see **Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster** (b. 1965) in dialogue with **Kasper König**, Artistic Director of Skulptur Projekte Münster 2017. A debate surrounding 'Cohabitation & What is wrong with Ecological Art' will be the focus on Saturday, June 17. Discussing these themes and tying them in with their own art practice, speakers will include artists **Julian Charrière** (b. 1987) and **Lara Almarcegui** (b. 1972), with **Luise Faurshou**, Founder & Director of Faurshou Art Resources & ART 2030, Copenhagen, and moderator **Ana Paula Cohen**, Independent Curator, Editor and Writer, São Paulo.

The following day, audiences will be able to gain insights into the collaboration between **Stanley Whitney** (b. 1946) and **Claes Nordenhake**, Founder and Director, Galerie Nordenhake, in a talk entitled 'The Artist and the Gallerist', moderated by **Alexie Glass-**

Kantor, Executive Director, Artspace, Sydney and Curator of Art Basel's Encounters sector in Hong Kong.

Further highlights from Conversations include an artist talk moderated by **Valerie Kabov**, Editor-at-Large of Art Africa Magazine, Harare under the theme 'Do Artists need to Leave Africa to be Successful?', in which South African artists **Candice Breitz** (b. 1972) and **Zanele Muholi** (b. 1972) will discuss the contemporary African art scene and how young African artists can build recognition for their work, both at home and abroad. Shifting the focus to Russia's art scene, 'Russian Conceptualism: Silent Resistance' will present a political discussion featuring conceptual artist **Vadim Zakharov** (b. 1959) in conversation with **Margarita Tupitsyn**, Independent Scholar, Critic and Curator, New York, moderated by **Ekaterina Inozemtseva**, Senior Curator, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow. 'Bricks-and-Mortar & Acquisitions' will feature **Anthony Reynolds**, Owner, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London in conversation with **Janice Guy**, Co-owner, former Murray Guy, New York about the role of traditional galleries and the perceived shifting importance of physical spaces to the sales of art, moderated by **Josh Baer**, Advisor and Publisher, Baer Faxt, New York. 'The Future(s) of Photography' will be discussed by a panel including: **Thomas Zander**, Owner Galerie Thomas Zander Cologne; **Philip Tinari**, Director, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing and **Nathalie Herschdorfer**, Director Museum of Fine Arts, Le Locle, and will be moderated by **Tobia Bezzola**, Director of Museum Folkwang in Essen.

The weekend program will include 'Jerusalem Lives', a conversation between Palestinian artist **Yazan Khalili** (b. 1981) and **Reem Fadda**, Independent Curator, Amman, which will focus on the opening of The Palestinian Museum in 2016 and the first ever exhibition in the new space one year after its opening, curated by Reem Fadda. 'Oh the Humanity' will bring together artist **Cécile B. Evans** (b. 1983) and **Susanne Pfeffer**, Director of the Fridericianum in Kassel, and Commissioner, German Pavilion at the 2017 Venice Biennale. Saturday's talk 'Archives and the Digital Dark Age' will see Hans Ulrich Obrist moderate a dialogue between **Sabih Ahmed**, Senior Researcher Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong and **Glenn R. Phillips**, Curator and Head of Modern & Contemporary Collections, Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles on the acceleration of technology in relationship to the slow pace of preservation, which is leading to the future possible loss of information in both mediums. The last day of the program will include a discussion on the impacts of social media on the art market, featuring speakers **Amadeo Kraupa-Tuskany**, Co-Founder and Director, Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler, Berlin and collector **Tobias Gombert**, Basel, to be moderated by **Astrid Mania**, Art Critic and Author, Berlin.

Conversations is held daily from Wednesday, June 14 to Sunday, June 18 in the auditorium of Hall 1. The program is open to the public and free of charge. All panel discussions are followed by a Q&A session.

All Conversations panels will be live streamed on Art Basel's YouTube channel and on our website: artbasel.com/basel/conversations.

DETAILED CONVERSATIONS PROGRAM

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

10am to 11.30am | Premiere Artist Talk | Annette Messenger

Annette Messenger, Artist, Malakoff in conversation with Dr. Maria Balshaw, Director, Tate, United Kingdom

4pm to 5pm | Collector Talk | Private Collections Ascension

Leon Amitai, Collector and CEO of Sutex, Bogotá; Maja Hoffmann, Art Patron, and Founder, LUMA Foundation, Zurich

Moderator: Linda Yablonsky, Writer and Columnist, Artforum, New York

5pm to 6pm | Biennale Talk | Two Approaches: The Postcolonial & The Personal

Gabi Ngcobo, Curator, 10th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, Berlin; Elmgreen & Dragset, Artists, and Curators, 15th Istanbul Biennial, Berlin

Moderator: Georgina Adam, Editor-at-large, The Art Newspaper, London

6pm to 7pm | Collector Talk | My Journey as Collector

Wilhelm Schürmann, Photographer and Collector, Herzogenrath in conversation with Susanne Titz, Director Städtisches Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach

Thursday, June 15, 2017

10am to 11.30am | Public Private | New Rules: Is the Artworld a Mature Industry?

Lindsay Pollock, former Editor-in-Chief, Art in America, New York; Olav Velthuis, Professor, Department of Sociology at University of Amsterdam, and President, TIAMSA, Amsterdam; Adam Sheffer, Partner, Cheim & Read, and President, Art Dealers Association of America, New York; Pierre Valentin, Partner, Constantine Cannon LLP, London; Bob Rennie, Collector, Vancouver

Moderator: András Szántó, Author and Cultural Consultant, New York

2pm to 3pm | Museum Talk | Reconsidering Museum Growth

Beatrix Ruf, Director, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam; Frances Morris, Director, Tate Modern, London

Moderator: Nina Siegal, Freelance Contributor, The New York Times, Amsterdam

3pm to 4pm | Artist Talk | Do Artists Need to Leave Africa to be Successful?

Candice Breitz, Artist, Berlin; Zanele Muholi, Artist and Visual Activist, Johannesburg

Moderator: Valerie Kabov, Editor-at-Large, Art Africa Magazine, Harare

4pm to 5pm | Artist Talk | Russian Conceptualism: Silent Resistance

Vadim Zakharov, Artist, Berlin in conversation with Margarita Tupitsyn, Independent Scholar, Curator and Critic, New York

Moderator: Ekaterina Inozemtseva, Senior Curator, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow

5pm to 6pm | Artist Talk | Artificial Lives

Aparna Rao, Pors & Rao, Artist, Bangalore/Zurich in conversation with Alia Al-Senussi, Art Patron, London

Friday, June 16, 2017

10am to 11.30am | Artist Talk | Artists' Influencers

Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, Artist, Paris; Kasper König, Artistic Director, Skulptur Projekte Münster 2017, Berlin

Moderator: Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director, Serpentine Galleries, London

2pm to 3pm | Art Market Talk | Bricks-and-Mortar & Acquisitions

Anthony Reynolds, Owner, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London; Janice Guy, Co-Owner, former Murray Guy, New York

Moderator: Josh Baer, Advisor and Publisher, Baer Fxxt, New York

3pm to 4pm | Artist Talk | Social Practice Changes

Carlos Garaicoa, Artist, Havana/Madrid; Sue Williamson, Artist, Cape Town

Moderator: Gianni Jetzer, Curator of Art Basel's Unlimited sector and Curator-at-Large, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.

4pm to 5pm | Photography Talk | The Future(s) of Photography

Thomas Zander, Owner, Galerie Thomas Zander, Cologne; Philip Tinari, Director, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing; Nathalie Herschdorfer, Director, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Le Locle

Moderator: Tobia Bezzola, Director, Museum Folkwang, Essen

5pm to 6pm | Artist Talk | Fluidity of Identity

Claire Atherton, Film Editor, Paris; Rania Stephan, Filmmaker and Artist, Beirut

Moderator: Kathleen Bühler, Curator, Kunstmuseum Bern, Bern

Saturday, June 17, 2017**10am to 11.30am | Artworld Talk | Cohabitation & What is wrong with Ecological Art**

Lara Almarcegui, Artist, Rotterdam; Julian Charrière, Artist, Berlin; Luise Fauschou, Founder and Director, ART 2030 and Fauschou Art Resources, Copenhagen

Moderator: Ana Paula Cohen, Independent Curator, Editor and Writer, São Paulo

2pm to 3pm | Creative Cities Talk | Culture for Urban Identity

Abraham Cruzvillegas, Artist, Mexico City; Bernard Khoury, Architect and Designer, Beirut; Afroditi Panagiotakou, Director of Culture, Onassis Foundation, Athens

Moderator: Mark Rappolt, Editor-in-Chief, ArtReview, London

3pm to 4pm | Museum Talk | Jerusalem Lives

Yazan Khalili, Artist, Ramallah in conversation with Reem Fadda, Curator, Amman

4pm to 5pm | Artist Talk | Oh the Humanity!

Cécile B. Evans, Artist, London in conversation with Susanne Pfeffer, Director, Fridericianum, Kassel, and Curator German Pavillon, 57th Venice Biennale

5pm to 6pm | Curator Talk | Archives and the Digital Dark Age

Glenn Phillips, Curator and Head of Modern & Contemporary Collections, Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles; Sabih Ahmed, Senior Researcher, Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong

Moderator: Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director, Serpentine Galleries, London

Sunday, June 18, 2017**10am to 11.30am | Artist Talk | The Artist and the Gallerist**

Stanley Whitney, Artist, New York/Parma; Claes Nordenhake, Founder and Director, Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin/Stockholm

Moderator: Alexie Glass-Kantor, Executive Director, Artspace, Sydney

2pm to 3pm | Artist Talk | Nurture vs. Promotion: Young Artists

Giovanni Carmine, Director, Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, St. Gallen; Gina Folly, Artist, Basel

Moderator: Irene Calderoni, Curator, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin

3pm to 4pm | Art Market Talk | The Social Media Art Market

Amadeo Kraupa-Tuskany, Co-Founder and Director, Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler, Berlin;

Tobias Gombert, Collector, Basel

Moderator: Astrid Mania, Art Critic and Author, Berlin

4pm to 5pm | Artist Talk | The Stage as Safe Space

Samuel Leuenberger, Curator of Art Basel's Parcours sector, Director and Curator of

SALTS, Birsfelden; Marvin Gaye Chetwynd, Artist, Glasgow; Than Hussein Clark, Artist,

London/Hamburg

Moderator: Jane Morris, Editor-at-Large, The Art Newspaper, and Contributor, The

Economist, London

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Mari Spirito

Mari Spirito is Founding Director and Curator of Protocinema, an independent organization which makes site-aware exhibitions around the world. She is a jury member on the Art Basel Crowdfunding Initiative, and was Curator and Director of Alt Art Space in Istanbul from 2015 to 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, 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 \$1.5 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 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.

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: 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. 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](https://www.facebook.com/artbasel) or follow @artbasel on Instagram, Google+, Twitter, Weibo and Wechat.

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