
PRESS RELEASE
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Art Basel's Online Viewing Rooms: Further Details and Highlights

The June edition of Art Basel's Online Viewing Rooms will feature an international lineup of 281 leading galleries from 35 countries and territories across Europe, North and South America, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. An events program consisting of live-streamed talks, curator tours, as well as digital events staged by galleries – from studio tours to performance – will accompany this second edition. The Online Viewing Rooms will run from June 19 to June 26, 2020, with preview days from June 17 to June 19, 2020.

Collectors will be able to discover over 4,000 exceptional works from the Modern to post-war and contemporary, including painting, sculpture, drawings, installation, and photography, as well as video and digital works.

Several galleries will present thematic viewing rooms reflecting on the current paradigm and the impacts of the pandemic, including: Jack Shainman Gallery's 'Reach out and touch me', featuring works that highlight the power of physical intimacy in a time marked by a retreat from the public sphere and the decline of casual interpersonal contact; OMR's selection of works that aims to encourage reflection upon the times we are living through, as we reconsider our priorities and rethink what we had once thought possible; works by **Simryn Gill**, **Mrinalini Mukherjee**, and **Anwar Jalal Shemza** at Jhaveri Contemporary that explore the abiding role of nature as an inspiration – both a sanctuary and resilient force – as it reclaims urban spaces in extended periods of lockdown; and Jan Mot's 'I'd Like to Hear Your Voice', a group exhibition reflecting on current circumstances by elaborating on different dimensions of voice.

The vital themes of racial equality and justice will be addressed in various presentations. Select highlights include: Sikkema Jenkins & Co.'s presentation, which will include works by **Deana Lawson** that explore representations of the body within the context of contemporary Black diasporic life, as well as a new work on paper by **Kara Walker** – a monumental quadriptych from her 2019 'Fons Americanus' archive, addressing the power systems of white supremacy that comprised the trans-Atlantic slave trade within Europe and America; 'Personas' by Yancey Richardson Gallery, featuring a selection of works by **Zanele Muholi**, **Mickalene Thomas**, and **Tseng Kwong Chi**, whose photographs explore race, gender, and personal identity through portraiture; a sculpture by **Yinka Shonibare CBE** that seeks to break with established Western canons of knowledge at Goodman Gallery; and a painting by **Arjan Martins** presented by A Gentil Carioca that depicts the young João Pedro, who was shot by the Brazilian police in 2020, addressing issues around violence and exploitation in Brazil today.

Some galleries will use their exhibition spaces in parallel to their participation in the Online Viewing Rooms. Over 20 galleries in Berlin are taking part in the 'BaselbyBerlin' project where they will be physically installing works from their online booths in their own galleries, so that collectors can see in person the works featured on the Art Basel platform.

The second edition of the Online Viewing Rooms will offer new features, such as the capability for users to 'like' and share their favorite works. Videos can now be embedded for every artwork, allowing galleries options such as close-up shots or short clips of artists talking about their own works.

An events program hosted by the participating galleries will accompany the Online Viewing Rooms, including **Sanford Biggers** in conversation with Franklin Sirmans, Director of Pérez Art Museum Miami, presented by Marianne Boesky Gallery; **Rana Begum** in conversation with Kate MacGarry in her studio with works exhibited in the Online Viewing Rooms; and Goodman Gallery's digital representation of **Yinka Shonibare CBE's** 'The African Library' installation, as well as an online program of **Shirin Neshat's** preeminent films. **Hans Op de Beek** will present his newest creations in an intimate tour of his studio with Galleria Continua, while Jan Mot will showcase **David Lamelas'** online performance 'Time' (2020), revisiting his iconic piece from 1970s. Art Basel will also hold a series of talks with gallerists on special sectors – Jasmin Tsou from JTT on 'Statements', Prateek Raja from Experimenter on 'Feature', and Carolina Nitsch from Carolina Nitsch on 'Edition' – as well as tours with curators, all of which will be free and open to the public upon registration. The full program of events can be found on artbasel.com/ovr.

Marc Spiegler, Global Director, Art Basel said: 'In addition to the exceptional presentations of the highest-quality works by our galleries, the second edition of the Online Viewing Rooms will also feature a range of programs throughout the duration to foster conversations and provide greater context to the galleries' presentations. While we know that the digital platform cannot replicate completely what our physical shows offer, we hope it will provide strong support to our galleries and their artists as the art world continues to navigate these difficult times.'

The Online Viewing Rooms will be available via the Art Basel website under artbasel.com/viewing-rooms and the Art Basel App.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Online Viewing Rooms

Art Basel's Online Viewing Rooms offer exhibitors an additional platform to showcase artworks to Art Basel's global network of patrons, as well as new collectors and buyers. The new digital initiative runs in parallel to the shows – rather than replacing the physical experience of an art fair – and allows gallerists to showcase additional curated exhibitions of works not presented at the fair. The Online Viewing Rooms are searchable by galleries, artists, medium, and price, and allow collectors to directly contact the gallery with sales inquiries. Like the fairs, the show rooms start with a preview, accessible only to VIP card holders, followed by several days when the showrooms will be open to the public.

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 new digital platforms and a number of new initiatives such as The Art Basel and UBS Global Art Market Report and The BMW Art Journey. For further information, please visit artbasel.com.

Partners

UBS, Global Lead Partner of Art Basel, has supported the organization for more than 27 years. As Art Basel's global network expanded, UBS increased its lead partnership to include all three shows, and as co-publisher of the Art Basel and UBS Global Art Market Report. UBS has a long record of engagement in contemporary art with the UBS Art Collection, one of the world's most distinguished corporate art collections with more than 30,000 works created by artists from more than 75 countries at its core. The firm actively enables audiences to participate in contemporary art through its partnerships with leading cultural organizations around the world. UBS provides its clients with insight into the art market, collecting and legacy planning through its Art Collectors Circle and the UBS Art Advisory Unit. For more information about UBS's commitment to contemporary art, visit ubs.com/art.

Art Basel's **Associate Partners** include Audemars Piguet, whose expanding activities in contemporary art include the Audemars Piguet Art Commission and NetJets – the world leader in private aviation. Art Basel is also supported globally by BMW, who has codeveloped with Art Basel the BMW Art Journey, Ruinart, Sanlorenzo, La Prairie, and On. Art Basel's Global Media Partner is The Financial Times.

Art Basel's show in Basel is also supported by Baloise Group, whose Art Prize is awarded to up to two artists exhibiting in the Statements sector, AXA XL, Vienna Tourist Board, Chateau d'Esclans, and Vitra. For more information, please visit artbasel.com/partners.

Important Dates for Media

Online Viewing Rooms

Preview (by invitation only)

Wednesday, June 17, 7am ET, 1pm CET, 7pm HK time – Friday, June 19, 2020, 7am ET, 1pm CET, 7pm HK time

Public days

Friday, June 19, 2020, 7am ET, 1pm CET, 7pm HK time – Friday, June 26, 2020, 7am ET, 1pm CET, 7pm HK time

Upcoming Art Basel shows

Miami Beach, December 3-6, 2020
Hong Kong, March 25-27, 2021
Basel, June 17-20, 2021

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.

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