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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**BASEL | JUNE 18 | 2023**

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**Art Basel concludes 2023 edition of its flagship fair in Basel amid reports of strong sales to institutions and private collectors from across the world**

- **Art Basel closed on Sunday, June 18, 2023 following a weeklong presentation of the highest-quality artworks and strong sales across all sectors**
- **The fair attracted an attendance of 82,000 throughout the week, reinforcing its position as the most important convening point for the global art world**
- **Kabinett, a popular sector of both the Hong Kong and Miami Beach shows in which galleries present thematic exhibitions within their booths, debuted at the Basel show with 13 thoughtfully curated presentations from 14 galleries**
- **Visitors also enjoyed a range of public programs, including an interactive installation by Latifa Echakhch on the Messeplatz; Parcours, featuring 24 site-specific installations across the city – its largest edition to date; Conversations; and Film**
- **Art Basel, whose Global Lead Partner is UBS, took place at Messe Basel from June 15 to 18, 2023**

The 2023 edition of Art Basel's flagship fair in Basel concluded with highly praised presentations by 284 galleries from 36 countries and territories and notable sales throughout the week. 21 galleries participated in the fair for the first time, while 12 galleries made their debut in the fair's main sector to present the full scope of their program. **The fair debuted Kabinett**, a mainstay sector in the Hong Kong and Miami Beach shows which allows galleries to showcase focused presentations within their booths and dive deeper into the practices of the artists presented. Curated by Giovanni Carmine, Director of the Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, **Unlimited featured 76 large-scale installations and performances**, with Unlimited Night on Thursday, June 15 presenting special performances by Olaf Nicolai and Augustas Serapinas during extended hours.

Leading private collectors from across the globe were once again in attendance, as well as patrons and representatives of over 240 institutions, including Centre Pompidou, Paris; Dia Art Foundation, New York; Guggenheim Abu Dhabi; He Art Museum, Foshan; Istanbul Modern; Kunsthaus Zurich; Kunstverein in Hamburg; Leopold Museum, Vienna; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; MACBA – Museum Of Contemporary Art Barcelona; MALBA – Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires; MAXXI, Rome; MoMA PS1, New York; Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal; Städel Museum, Frankfurt; Sursock Museum, Beirut; Palais de Tokyo, Paris; Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam; Royal Commission of AlUla; San Francisco Museum of Art; Serpentine Galleries, London; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam; Tate, London; Today Art Museum, Beijing; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, Cape Town.

**Vincenzo de Bellis, Director, Fairs and Exhibition Platforms, Art Basel** said: 'Our flagship show has a rich history of creating a platform for the art world to convene and discover the most contemporary practices together with extraordinary historical positions,

and this year was no exception. Gallery presentations were of outstanding quality and resonated strongly with the institutions and private collectors in attendance, leading to thoughtful conversations and significant sales. We are concluding the week on a high note and look forward to welcoming back the international art world to our show in June 2024.'

**Christl Novakovic, CEO UBS Europe, Head Wealth Management Europe, and Chair of the UBS Art Board** said: "Art collectors and clients turned out to experience the vibrancy of Art Basel throughout the entire city. Creativity is the energy that binds us, and we saw plenty of it at this year's show, especially at the discussion we hosted with culture writer Enuma Okoro. The infectious power of collective creativity illustrates why UBS is active in the art community and has sponsored Art Basel for almost three decades."

**The city's Messeplatz was transformed by an interdisciplinary installation by Moroccan, Swiss-based artist Latifa Echakhch**, which featured several stages in various states of construction that hosted a series of live concerts and performances by Leila Bordreuil, Rhys Chatham, Robert Longo, Naama Tsabar, and others. The presentation was curated by Samuel Leuenberger, Curator for Parcours at Art Basel, and organized in collaboration with Luc Meier, Director of La Becque Artist Residency.

Also curated by Samuel Leuenberger, founder of the non-profit exhibition spaces SALTS in Birsfelden and Country SALTS in Bennwil, **this year's Parcours brought to life 24 site-specific public art projects and performances**, marking it the largest edition of the sector to date. On Saturday, June 17, Parcours Night offered the public festivities and live performances in the greater Münsterplatz area, featuring Alex Baczynski-Jenkins, Noa Eshkol Chamber Dance Group, Julie Monot, Georgia Sagri, and Jacolby Satterwhite.

The fair's public programming also included the **Conversations** program, curated by Emily Butler and this year focused on the subjects of care, collectivity, and connectivity; and **the Film program**, with screenings of extraordinary artists' cinema projects, curated by Filipa Ramos, founding curator of the online video platform Vdrome and lecturer at the Arts Institute of the FHNW in Basel, in collaboration with New York-based independent curator Marian Masone.

**The 24th Baloise Art Prize was awarded to two emerging artists in the Statements sector: Sky Hopinka presented by Broadway and Sin Wai Kin presented by Soft Opening.** In addition to awarding the Prize, the Baloise Group acquired works by the selected artists and donated them to Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt and the Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg.

This year's exhibitors commented:

'An overall great experience, with high-quality visitors and a buzzing atmosphere at the fair and in the city, resulted in strong sales during the first hours and continued throughout the week.'

**Stefan von Bartha, Owner, von Bartha (Basel, Copenhagen)**

'Art Basel's role as a convening point for the creative industries in the art ecosystem is keenly felt in the connections we made and the sales that we placed at the onset of the fair. Over half of our booth was sold on the first preview day. We are so immensely proud of the diversity of presentations across the show and the organization's ability to attract crowds from all corners of the world. Against all odds, there is no better way to showcase the resilience of the art market.'

**Priyanka Raja, Director, Experimenter (Kolkata, Mumbai)**

‘Seeing so many familiar faces and making new connections at the fair this week has proven that Art Basel still holds the throne. There was a lot of energy at the booth, and we’ve connected with seasoned collectors from all over the world—South Korea, Lebanon, Brazil, US—although for us, it still remains the strongest fair for engaging European collectors and curators.’

**Rachel Lehmann, Co-Founder, Lehmann Maupin (Seoul, London, New York)**

‘This was one of the busiest fairs I’ve seen for years. It was a positive sign for the market to see collectors buying paintings for many millions of dollars from us, and great that within this there was a strong representation of women artists. The great thing about this fair is that you see many of the world’s most important collectors having a good time, doing what they love. For many of them this is their downtime from their day-to-day and Gagolian is here to give them the very best there is to offer.’

**Andrew Fabricant, Chief Operating Officer, Gagolian (Hong Kong, Paris, Athens, Rome, Basel, Geneva, London, Beverly Hills, New York)**

‘For us, the fair is an ongoing, in-depth dialogue we’ve been having for years with like-minded collectors and curators who share our particular vision of modern and contemporary art history. As a Swiss gallery, Art Basel is of course our touchstone, and we bring the rarest and most exceptional works.’

**Iwan Wirth, President, Hauser & Wirth (Hong Kong, Ciutadella de Menorca, Gstaad, St. Moritz, Zurich, London, Somerset, Los Angeles, New York)**

‘On the heels of a successful Hong Kong show in March, this year’s Basel show is another truly remarkable comeback for Asian galleries. We were so pleased to see the positive response towards the Japanese artists in our roster, which resulted in brisk sales throughout the fair week. We sold works to collectors from Greece, Sweden, Switzerland, Argentina, as well as Japan and more. Art Basel truly lives up to its reputation as a premiere art fair.’

**Taka Ishii, Founder, Taka Ishii (Tokyo)**

‘It’s been a very successful Art Basel week, and it was great to see all of our international collectors in town. A new generation of young and savvy collectors brought a fresh energy to the fair. We sold two major pieces at Unlimited on the opening day, and placed works in several high profile institutional and private collections in Europe and Asia.’

**Monika Sprüth and Philomene Magers, Co-owners, Sprüth Magers (Hong Kong, Berlin, London, Los Angeles)**

‘After more than 15 years being a regular at Art Basel, I’ve never felt the fair so diverse. I am glad the world is changing. For the better.’

**Pamela Echeverria, Owner & Director, Labor (Mexico City)**

‘This year, Art Basel marked our most successful fair yet, with almost 40 sales by the end of the opening day alone. The works were placed in major private and public museum collections equally, and we have met with amazing art lovers from all generations. We very much look forward to Paris+, which was a big hit as well.’

**Kamel Mennour, Founder, Mennour (Paris)**

‘Our first year at Art Basel was unforgettable. Next level. We met many new collectors, curators, and contacts from major institutions. We sold out our booth and made numerous sales beyond that. Could not have wished for better.’

**Baylon Sandri, Owner/Director, SMAC Art Gallery (Cape Town, Johannesburg, Stellenbosch)**

For the full list of statements from exhibitors, please [click here](#).

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### 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, Hong Kong, and Paris. 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 Intersections: The Art Basel Podcast. For further information, please visit [artbasel.com](http://artbasel.com).

### Partners

#### UBS & Contemporary Art

Global Lead Partner of Art Basel, UBS has a long history of supporting contemporary art and artists. The firm has one of the world's most important corporate art collections and seeks to advance the international conversation about the art market through its global lead partnership with Art Basel, and as co-publisher of the 'Art Basel and UBS Global Art Market Report'. UBS also supports some of the world's most important arts institutions, events and fairs. UBS provides its clients with insight into the art market, collecting, and legacy planning through its UBS Collectors Circle and UBS Art Advisory. For more information about UBS's commitment to contemporary art, visit [ubs.com/art](http://ubs.com/art).

Art Basel's **Associate Partners** are Audemars Piguet, whose contemporary art commissioning program, 'Audemars Piguet Contemporary', works with artists to support and develop an unrealized artwork which explores a new direction in their practice; and NetJets – the world leader in private aviation. Art Basel is also supported globally by Arcual, BMW, La Prairie, Ruinart, Sanlorenzo, On, and Quintessentially. Art Basel's Global Media Partner is the Financial Times.

Local Partners in Basel are Baloise, whose Art Prize is awarded to up to two artists exhibiting in the Statements sector, Vitra, Enea Landscape Architecture, and Mövenpick Hotel Basel. For more information, please visit [artbasel.com/partners](http://artbasel.com/partners).

#### Upcoming Art Basel shows

Paris+ par Art Basel, October 19-22, 2023

Miami Beach, December 8-10, 2023

Hong Kong, March 26-30, 2024

Basel, June 13-16, 2024

#### 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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