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### PRESS RELEASE

BASEL | JUNE 4 | 2015

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#### Conversations and Salon: Art Basel's program 2015

Art Basel's Conversations and Salon series will once again bring together key speakers including leading artists, gallerists, art historians, curators, museum directors, critics, and collectors from across the world to discuss a diverse range of topics. The 27 talks will feature speakers including, **Rossella Biscotti**, **Julien Bismuth**, **Mariana Castillo Deball**, **Simone Fattal**, **Matthew Higgs**, **Susan Hiller**, **Christian Jankowski**, **Jean Lamore**, **Lu Jie**, **Jumana Manna**, **Robin Meier**, **Aïda Muluneh**, **Ciprian Mureșan**, **Shelly Nadashi**, **Moataz Nasr**, **Erkka Nissinen**, **Wael Shawky**, **Lara Schnitger**, **Rirkrit Tiravanija**, **Barthélémy Toguo**, **Ulay**, **Danh Võ**, **Peter Wächtler** and **Anicka Yi**.

Art Basel's Conversations series launches with the Premiere Artist Talk, which will see Vietnamese-born Danish artist **Danh Võ** discuss his most recent and innovative projects, including his presentation at the Venice Biennale, with **Manuela Ammer**, curator, mumok, Vienna. As part of a larger focus on the African continent in the Conversations and Salon program, **András Szántó**, author and cultural consultant, leads a discussion as part of the Public/Private series on Thursday morning entitled 'Works in Progress: Building New Art Institutions in Africa'. The talk will evaluate both the promise and challenges of a continent that is commanding increasing interest from the international arts community with **Marie-Cécile Zinsou**, president, Fondation Zinsou, Cotonou, Benin; **Touria El Glaoui**, founder, 1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London; **Koyo Kouoh**, founding artistic director, RAW Material Company, Dakar; **Mark Coetzee**, director and chief curator, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, Cape Town and **Raphael Chikukwa**, chief curator, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

As part of his ongoing series on the diversity of artistic practice, a panel led by **Hans Ulrich Obrist**, co-director, Serpentine Gallery, London, will focus on 'The Artist as Archaeologist'. The 10th installment of the series will bring together several artists from a range of generations whose work takes inspiration from archaeology, excavation or research. On Saturday, the Conversations panel offers a dialogue about the unique and essential relationship between artists and their gallerists with **Andrée Sfeir-Semler**, director, Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Hamburg/Beirut and Egyptian artist **Wael Shawky**. On Sunday, 'Rethinking Kunsthallen and Non Profits', moderated by **Marc-Olivier Wahler**, founder and director, Chalet Society, Paris, looks into the evolution of the Kunsthalle with **Anthony Huberman**, director and chief curator, Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco; **Matthew Higgs**, artist, director and chief curator, White Columns, New York; **Elena Filipovic**, director and chief curator, Kunsthalle Basel, Basel; **Solveig Øvstebø**, executive director and chief curator, The Renaissance Society, Chicago, and **Samuel Leuenberger**, director and curator, SALTS, Basel.

Highlights of the afternoon Salon program, an open platform for short presentations, includes a discussion on Milan in the 60s focusing on Italian artist **Paolo Scheggi**. Moderated by **Mirta d'Argenzio**, art historian, Rome, the panel includes **Bernard Blistène**, director, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre de creation industrielle, Centre Pompidou, Paris; **Luca Massimo Barbero**, associate curator, Peggy Guggenheim Collection and editor of the upcoming 'Paolo Scheggi: Catalogue Raisonné', Venice. As part of **Josh Baer's** series on the art market, the publisher of Baer Faxt and art advisor, will discuss 'Commissioning in Today's Market' with **Benjamin Weil**, artistic director,

Centro Botín, Santander, Spain; **Heike Munder**, director, Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zürich; **Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudengo**, president, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin and **Marc Payot**, partner and vice president, Hauser & Wirth, New York.

On Friday, highlights include a discussion on the power of contemporary art with **Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung**, curator, art critic and director, SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin; **Moataz Nasr**, artist and founder, Darb 1718 Contemporary Art & Culture Center, Cairo; **Jean Lamore**, artist, writer and filmmaker, Paris and **Chris Dercon**, director, Tate Modern, London, moderated by **Simon Njami**, writer, independent curator, founder and chief editor, Revue Noire, Paris. **Chus Martinez**, head of the Art Institute at Academy of Art and Design, FHNW, Basel, will moderate a discussion entitled 'The Caribbean is the Future of Art' with **Sara Hermann**, Dominican art historian and curator, Dominican Republic; **Yasmil Raymond**, curator of Allora & Calzadilla's 'Puerto Rican Light (Cueva Vientos)', Puerto Rico, and as part of the Art Market series **Olav Velthuis**, associate professor, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, and **Stefano Baia Curioni**, associate professor, Università Bocconi, Milan, will moderate 'The Myth of a Global Art Market' with **Lu Jie**, artist, curator and founder, Long March Space and Project, Beijing; **Marcio Botner**, artist, founder of A Gentil Carioca and CEO Ocalage, Rio de Janeiro.

As part of the Salon talks on Africa, **Bomi Odunade**, director, Dash & Rallo Art Advisory, London/Lagos will be moderating 'Collecting Africa' with **Prince Yemisi Shyllon**, collector and founder, Omooba Yemisi Adedoyin Shyllon Art Foundation, Lagos and **Bruce Campbell Smith**, collector, Cape Town. The Salon program will then end on Sunday with a discussion moderated by **Maxa Zoller**, curator of Art Basel's Film sector and independent curator, Cairo, on 'Beyond Austerity: Supporting Art in Cultural Crisis' with **Aleya Hamza**, founder of Gypsum Gallery, Cairo; **Katalin Timar**, lecturer, Theory and Art History, University of Pecs, Pécsi, Hungary; **Övül Durmuşoğlu**, curator and writer, Berlin/Istanbul and **Khaled Jalanbo**, director, The Jalanbo Collection, New York.

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## DETAILED CONVERSATIONS PROGRAM

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The morning Conversations series offers dynamic dialogs between prominent members of the international artworld, each offering their unique perspective on producing, collecting and exhibiting art.

Conversations is held daily from Wednesday, June 17 to Sunday, June 21 in Hall 1 of Art Basel. Panel discussions take place between 10am and 11am, followed by a 30-minute Q&A session. It is open to the public and free of charge.

High-quality videos of all Conversations will be available shortly after the show at [artbasel.com/basel/conversations](http://artbasel.com/basel/conversations).

### **Wednesday, June 17, 2015 | Premiere | Artist Talk | Danh Võ**

Danh Võ, Artist, Berlin, in conversation with Manuela Ammer, Curator, mumok, Vienna

This year's Conversations series is inaugurated by Vietnamese-born Danish artist Danh Võ and curator Manuela Ammer in a discussion about Danh Võ's most recent and innovative projects and shows. Among them are a group show at the Pinault Foundation co-curated by the artist, his on-going series 'Come to Where the Flavours Are' included in the 12th Sharjah Biennial, and especially 'mothertongue' in the Danish Pavillon of the 56th Venice Biennale.

**Thursday, June 18, 2015 | Public/Private | Works in Progress: Building New Art Institutions in Africa**

Marie-Cécile Zinsou, President, Fondation Zinsou, Cotonou, Benin; Touria El Glaoui, Founder, 1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London; Koyo Kouoh, Founding Artistic Director, RAW Material Company, Dakar; Mark Coetzee, Director and Chief Curator, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, Cape Town, Raphael Chikukwa, Chief Curator, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe  
Moderator: András Szántó, Author and Cultural Consultant, New York

Africa is associated with enormous social and economic challenges, but has arguably the greatest opportunities of any world region. This discussion of leading curators and institutional innovators evaluates both the promise and challenges of a continent that is commanding increasing interest in the international art community. Where are the greatest opportunities in Africa for the emergence of a robust arts infrastructure? What are the persistent challenges that stand in the way of global cultural and commercial recognition?

**Friday, June 19, 2015 | Artistic Practice | The Artist as Archeologist**

Jumana Manna, Artist, Berlin/Jerusalem; Mariana Castillo Deball, Artist, Berlin; Susan Hiller, Artist, London; Peter Wächtler, Artist, Brussels; Simone Fattal, Artist, Paris/Beirut; Rossella Biscotti, Artist, Amsterdam  
Moderator: Hans Ulrich Obrist, Co-Director, Serpentine Gallery, London

Conceived by Hans Ulrich Obrist, this series is an ongoing overview of the diversity of artistic practices. The 10th installment brings together several artists from a range of generations, whose work is influenced by archaeology, excavation and research-based practices.

**Saturday, June 20, 2015 | Artist Talk | The Artist and the Gallerist**

Wael Shawky, Artist, Alexandria and Andrée Sfeir-Semler, Director, Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Hamburg/Beirut

This panel offers a frank conversation about the unique and essential relationship between artists and their galleries. Egyptian artist Wael Shawky and gallerist Andrée Sfeir-Semler, with locations in both Beirut and Hamburg, discuss how they work together; if/how their working relationship has changed over time, what they have learned from each other and their plans for the future.

**Sunday, June 21, 2015 | Rethinking Kunsthalls and Non Profits**

Anthony Huberman, Director and Chief Curator, Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco; Matthew Higgs, Artist, Director and Chief Curator, White Columns, New York; Elena Filipovic, Director and Chief Curator, Kunsthalle Basel, Basel; Solveig Øvstebø, Executive Director and Chief Curator, The Renaissance Society, Chicago; Samuel Leuenberger, Director and Curator, SALTS, Birsfelden/Basel  
Moderator: Marc-Olivier Wahler, Founder and Director, Chalet Society, Paris

The Kunsthalle acts as a responsive, loose structure with a speed of execution that should match as closely as possible that of the artists. How do mergers between public and private funding, accelerated information dispersion, and the dematerialization of art and art spaces effect Kunsthalls and non-profits worldwide?

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## DETAILED SALON PROGRAM

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The afternoon Salon program is an open platform for short presentations – often informal - such as artist talks, panels, lectures and performances with a range of speakers including artists, curators, academics, collectors, architects, art lawyers, critics and other cultural players.

Salon is held daily from Thursday, June 18 to Sunday, June 21 from 1pm to 7pm in Hall 1 of Art Basel. It is open to the public and free of charge.

High-quality videos of all Salon talks will be available shortly after the show at [artbasel.com/basel/salon](http://artbasel.com/basel/salon)

### Thursday, June 18, 2015

#### 1pm to 2pm | Artist Talk | BioLab Studios

Robin Meier, Artist, Paris; Anicka Yi, Artist, New York; Harm van den Dorpel, Artist, Berlin  
Moderator: Christoph Thun-Hohenstein, Director, MAK, Vienna, and Initiator of Vienna Biennale 2015

#### 2pm to 3pm | Collector Talk | Key Collections from Eastern Central Europe: The New Era

Gregory Jankilewicz, Collector, Warsaw/Geneva; Zuzana Bartošová, Curator, Collection of the First Slovak Investment Group and Research Associate at Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava; Zsolt Somloi, Collector, Budapest  
Moderators: Paulina Kolczynska, Independent Art Historian, Art Adviser and Strategic Collection Manager, New York; Kasia Redzisz, Senior Curator, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool

#### 3pm to 4pm | Artist Talk | Unlimited

Julius von Bismarck, Artist, Berlin; Jacob Kassay, Artist, Los Angeles; Sheila Hicks, Artist, Paris; Joe Bradley, Artist, New York  
Moderator: Gianni Jetzer, Curator of Art Basel's Unlimited sector and Curator at- Large, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC

#### 4pm to 5pm | Artist Talk | Paolo Scheggi: Milan in the 60s

Bernard Blistène, Director, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre de creation industrielle, Centre Pompidou, Paris; Luca Massimo Barbero, Associate Curator, Peggy Guggenheim Collection and Editor of the upcoming Paolo Scheggi: Catalogue Raisonné, Venice  
Moderator: Mirta d'Argenzio, Art Historian, Rome

#### 5pm to 6pm | Art Market Talk | Commissioning in Today's Market

Benjamin Weil, Artistic Director, Centro Botín, Santander, Spain; Heike Munder, Director, Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zürich; Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, President, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; Marc Payot, Partner and Vice President, Hauser & Wirth, New York  
Moderator: Josh Baer, Advisor and Publisher, Baer Fxnt, New York

#### 6pm to 7pm | Architect Talk | Constant's New Babylon

Mark Wigley, Author of 'Constant's New Babylon: The Hyper-Architecture of Desire', Princeton; Ludo van Halem, Curator for 'Constant and the European avant-garde 1950 – 1960' at Cobra Museum, Amstelveen  
Moderator: Hans den Hartog Jager, Art Critic and Writer, Amsterdam

## Friday, June 19, 2015

### 1pm to 2pm | Discussion | What Can Contemporary Art Do?

Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung, Curator, Art Critic and Director, SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin; Moataz Nasr, Artist, Founder, Darb 1718 Contemporary Art & Culture Center, Cairo; Chris Dercon, Director, Tate Modern, London; Jean Lamore, Artist, Writer and Filmmaker, Paris

Moderator: Simon Njami, Writer, Independent Curator, Founder and Chief Editor, Revue Noire, Paris

### 2pm to 3pm | Discussion | The Caribbean is the Future of Art

Sara Hermann, Dominican Art Historian and Curator, Dominican Republic; Yasmil Raymond, Curator of Allora & Calzadilla's 'Puerto Rican Light (Cueva Vientos)', Puerto Rico  
Moderator: Chus Martinez, Head of the Art Institute at Academy of Art and Design, FHNW, Basel

### 3pm to 4pm | Discussion | The Manifesta Question

Christian Jankowski, Artist and Curator, Manifesta 11, Berlin; Shelly Nadashi, Artist, Brussels; Giovanni Carmine, Director, Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, St.Gallen, Kasper König, Curator and Professor, Berlin

Moderator: Mari Spirito, Director, Protocinema, Istanbul/New York

### 4pm to 5pm | Art Market Talk | The Myth of a Global Art Market

Lu Jie, Artist, Curator and Founder, Long March Space and Project; Marcio Botner, Artist, Founder of A Gentil Carioca and CEO Ocalage, Rio de Janeiro

Moderators: Stefano Baia Curioni, Associate Professor, Università Bocconi, Milan; Olav Velthuis, Associate Professor, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam

### 5pm to 6pm | Collector Talk | Collecting Africa

Prince Yemisi Shyllon, Collector and Founder, Omooba Yemisi Adedoyin Shyllon Art Foundation, Lagos; Bruce Campbell Smith, Collector, Cape Town

Moderator: Bomi Odunade, Director, Dash & Rallo Art Advisory, London/Lagos

### 6pm to 7pm | Discussion | Residencies, Communities: Support Structures for Artists

François Quintin, Delegate Director, Fondation Galeries Lafayette, Paris; Rirkrit Tiravanija, Artist, New York/Berlin/Chiang Mai; Julie Boukobza, Curator, 89plus/Google Residency, Paris; Ariane Beyn, Director Department of Fine Arts, DAAD, Berlin

Moderator: Nikolaus Hirsch, Architect, Curator Frankfurt am Main

## Saturday, June 20, 2015

### 1pm to 2pm | Artist Talk | Remembering Louise Bourgeois

Dr. Iris Müller-Westermann, Senior Curator International Art and Curator of 'Louise Bourgeois: I Have Been to Hell and Back', Moderna Museet, Stockholm, currently on view at Museo Picasso Málaga; Jerry Gorovoy, President, Louise Bourgeois's Easton Foundation, New York; Ulf Küster, Curator, Fondation Beyeler, Riehen

Moderator: José Lebrero Stals, Artistic Director, Museo Picasso Málaga, Málaga

### 2pm to 3pm | Artist Talk | Performances in Public Space

Julien Bismuth, Artist, New York; Ciprian Mureşan, Artist, Cluj, Romania; Erkkka Nissinen, Artist, Helsinki; Lara Schnitger, Artist, Los Angeles

Moderator: Florence Derieux, Curator of Art Basel's Parcours sector and Director at FRAC Champagne-Ardenne, Reims

**3pm to 4pm | Collector Talk | Financialization: Art Collectors from the Financial Sector**

Alain Servais, Former Head of International Bonds Trading, Banque Dewaay, Financial Consultant, Entrepreneur and Collector, Brussels; Bilge Öğüt, Managing Director Private Equity Directs, Partners Group, London; Etienne Ficherouille, Founder, Artvest, Braine-le-Château, Belgium

Moderator: Andrew Goldstein, Chief Digital Content Officer, Phaidon/ Artspace, New York

**4pm to 5pm | Discussion | Local Modernism: Cross Cultural Exchanges**

Omar Kholeif, Curator, Whitechapel Gallery, and Senior Editor, Ibraaz, London; Shanay Jhaveri, Writer and Curator, London; Diana Campbell Betancourt, Artistic Director of Samdani Art Foundation, Dhaka; Jonathan Watkins, Director, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

Moderator: Princess Alia Al-Senussi, London

**5pm to 6pm | Artist Talk | Cultural Producers Africa**

Barthélémy Togo, Knight in the Order of Arts and Literature, France, and Artist and Founder of Bandjoun Station, Paris/Bandjoun, Cameroon; Aïda Muluneh, Artist, Addis Ababa

Moderator: Marie-Ann Yemsi, Cultural Consultant and Curator, Paris

**6pm to 7pm | Lecture Performance**

Allen S. Weiss, Associate Teacher, Performance Studies and Cinema Studies, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, New York

**Sunday, June 21, 2015**

**1pm to 2pm**

Panel and participants to be announced. For the latest information, please visit [artbasel.com/basel/salon](http://artbasel.com/basel/salon).

**2pm to 3pm | Artist Talk | Ulay**

Ulay, Artist, Amsterdam/Ljubljana, in conversation with Cathérine Hug, Curator, Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich.

**3pm to 4pm | Artist Talk**

Mattia Bosco, Artist, Milan; Naomi Fisher, Artist, Miami; Samuel Saelemakers, Associate Curator, Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam

Moderator: Rachel Mader, Head of the Competence Centre for Art and Design in Public Space, Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Lucerne

**4pm to 5pm | Discussion | Beyond Austerity: Supporting Art in Cultural Crisis**

Aleya Hamza, Founder of Gypsum Gallery, Cairo; Katalin Timar, Lecturer, Theory and Art History University of Pecs, Pécsi, Hungary; Övül Durmuşoğlu, Curator and Writer, Berlin/Istanbul; Khaled Jalanbo, Director, The Jalanbo Collection, New York

Moderator: Maxa Zoller, Curator of Art Basel's Film sector and Independent Curator, Cairo

For further information, please see [artbasel.com/basel/talks](http://artbasel.com/basel/talks)

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

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### **About Art Basel**

Art Basel stages the world's premier art shows for Modern and contemporary works, 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. In addition to ambitious stands featuring leading galleries from around the world, each show's exhibition sectors spotlight the latest developments in the visual arts, offering visitors new ideas, new inspiration and new contacts in the art world.  
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 has expanded, so too has UBS's commitment and lead partnership, which includes all three shows in Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong. In addition to its support of Art Basel, 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'.

Associate Partners Davidoff, the prestigious Swiss cigar brand, Audemars Piguet, the independent high-end watch manufacturer, and NetJets, the world leader in private aviation, support Art Basel across its three shows. Art Basel's Media Partners are The Financial Times and the Neue Zürcher Zeitung, and the VIP car service at the show is by BMW. Long-standing partner AXA ART, the international art insurance specialist, provides VIP guided tours at all shows. For further information on Art Basel's partners, please visit [artbasel.com/partners](http://artbasel.com/partners).

### **Important Dates for Media**

#### **Private View**

Tuesday, June 16, 2015, 11am to 8pm (by invitation only)

Wednesday, June 17, 2015, 11am to 3pm (by invitation only)

#### **Vernissage**

Wednesday, June 17, 2015, 3pm to 8pm (by invitation only)

#### **Public Days**

Thursday, June 18, 2015, 11am to 7pm

Friday, June 19, 2015, 11am to 7pm

Saturday, June 20, 2015, 11am to 7pm

Sunday, June 21, 2015, 11am to 7pm

#### **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.

For the latest updates on Art Basel, visit [artbasel.com](http://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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