

Art|Basel|Miami Beach

6-9|Dec|12

Art Basel Conversations and Art Salon: Premier line-up of panelists for 2012

Walead Beshty, Angela Bulloch, Rodney Graham, Alex Israel, Jesper Just, Ragnar Kjartansson, Adam Pendleton, Jim Shaw, Richard Tuttle and Bill Viola will be among the artists joining leading museum directors, collectors, curators and many other cultural players on this year's panels for Art Basel Conversations and Art Salon. Art Basel's renowned talks program takes place every public day of the show.

This year's **Art Basel Conversation** program, curated by **Maïke Cruse**, will open on Thursday with the Premiere Artist Talk presenting American artist **Richard Tuttle** in conversation with Tate Modern Director **Chris Dercon**.

Overall, the 2012 program will feature a particularly strong line-up of leading international museum directors and curators. On Friday, the 'Public/Private' panel will discuss 'The Encyclopedic Museum' and will feature **Thomas P. Campbell**, Director and CEO of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and **Michael Govan**, CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Saturday's panel 'Why Japanese Post-War Art Matters Now' will present **Doryun Chong**, Associate Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, The Museum of Modern Art, New York; **Allan Schwartzman**, Chief Curator, Inhotim, Minas Gerais and Director, Rachofsky Collection, Dallas; and **Mika Yoshitake**, Assistant Curator, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC. The panel will be moderated by **Alexandra Munroe**, Samsung Senior Curator of Asian Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York. On Sunday the 'Artistic Practice' series, hosted by **Hans Ulrich Obrist**, focuses on 'The Artist as Musician,' bringing together **Angela Bulloch, Rodney Graham, Ragnar Kjartansson, Ari Benjamin Meyers and Jim Shaw**.

Complementing the Art Basel Conversations program, **Art Salon** serves as a platform for shorter, more freestyle presentations, including artist talks, panel discussions, lectures and book launches. Presenting a range of speakers, this year's program will feature a number of stimulating talks focusing on a global range of topics from the art world today, including a Latin American art-market panel 'Challenges and Opportunities in Brazil and Mexico' and a 'Biennial of the Americas' talk. A talk on 'Street Art in the Middle East' and one looking at 'New Perspectives from the Edge of Arabia' will direct focus toward current perspectives in the Middle East.

Art Basel Conversations is free and open to the public. The program takes place in the auditorium of the Miami Beach Convention Center, adjacent to Info Zone D, daily from 10 – 11.30am, from Thursday, December 6, to Sunday, December 9, 2012. After each talk the audience can meet the panelists informally. Art Basel Conversations is presented by Absolut Art Bureau, responsible for The Absolut Company's international art initiatives.

Art Salon takes place in the same auditorium of the Miami Beach Convention Center,

accessible via show floor, daily from Thursday, December 6, to Sunday, December 9, 2012. Art Basel Miami Beach entry tickets include admission to Art Salon.

Absolut Art Bureau will make all talks available in high quality video on www.absolutartbureau.com and www.artbasel.com.

For a full list of **Art Basel Conversations** panels please visit www.artbasel.com/conversations.

For a full list of **Art Salon** talks please visit www.artbasel.com/salon.

About Art Basel

Art Basel stages the world's premier art shows for Modern and contemporary works, sited in Basel, Hong Kong, and Miami Beach. 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 globe, each show's singular exhibition sectors spotlight the latest developments in the visual arts, offering visitors new ideas, new inspiration and new contacts in the art world.

Absolut Art Bureau

Absolut Art Bureau is responsible for The Absolut Company's international art initiatives. The first spirit brand to forge genuinely close ties with art and artists, Absolut has been active in the art world since 1985, when it invited Andy Warhol to create the first in a series of iconic advertisements inspired by the Absolut bottle. Since then, Absolut has collaborated with more than 500 artists on over 800 commissioned projects. Today, Absolut supports acclaimed artists, art writers, and institutions in their efforts to present new works, stimulate ideas, bring people together, and broaden access to creativity. Through its diverse international sponsorships, Absolut Art Bureau encourages openness and experimentation in all visual media and across the full spectrum of contemporary art practice. Absolut Art Bureau is Associate Sponsor of Art Basel and Presenting Partner of Art Basel Conversations. Please visit www.absolutartbureau.com for additional information.

Important Dates for Media

Media Reception: December 5, 2012, 10am, Art Collectors Lounge

Opening Day (by invitation only): December 5, 2012, 11am – 9pm

Public Show Dates: December 6 – 9, 2012

Media Information on artbasel.com

Press release, images, and accreditation guidelines can be downloaded directly from the Art Basel website, www.artbasel.com/press. Journalists can accredit online for a press pass as well as subscribe to receive press releases for the show.

For the latest updates and detailed visitors' information on Art Basel Miami Beach, visit www.artbasel.com or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/artbaselmiamibeach.

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