
PRESS RELEASE

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ENCOUNTERS: 17 AMBITIOUS, LARGESCALE PROJECTS

Art Basel announced today the 17 artworks to be presented within the Encounters sector in Hong Kong, dedicated to showing large-scale sculptural installations by leading artists from around the world. Yuko Hasegawa, Chief Curator of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo and Curator of the Sharjah Biennial 11, curates the sector for the inaugural edition of the Hong Kong show.

Encounters will offer a strong representation of galleries from Hong Kong, exhibited alongside projects by galleries from India, Japan, Korea, Mainland China, Germany, Ireland, Italy, and the United Kingdom. The works will range from sculptures in traditional media such as marble, wood and bronze to installations inviting audience participation. With some reaching over five meters in height and others taking over 70 square meters of exhibition space, these major artworks will punctuate the Galleries sector, through placement on sixteen-meter wide boulevards, sited on both exhibition floors.

Arndt (Berlin) will present *Circa*, 2011 by Indian artist Jitish Kallat (*1974). The 120-part sculpture is painstakingly created to appear like real bamboo scaffolding, thus evoking the transitory image of Mumbai as one sees it today: caught in a state of perennial (re)development.

Yumiko Chiba Associates (Tokyo) will display *Noosphere*, 2012 by Japanese artist Takuma Uematsu (*1977). The piece consists of three chandeliers made up of small pieces of brightly colored agate stone in-set with shards of mirror.

De Sarthe Gallery (Hong Kong) will present *Le Rite Suspendue/Mouille*, 1991, an eight meter wide installation by French émigré Chinese artist Chen Zhen (1955 – 2000), created from disparate materials including metal, plexiglass, water, earth, sand, found objects and pigment. By collecting as many found objects as possible from the School of Fine Art, Paris, Chen Zhen aimed to recreate the school's physical force for the viewer.

Galerie Du Monde (Hong Kong) will present *Losing*, 2008 by Chinese artist Qin Chong (*1968). Taking over 70 square meters of exhibition space, the largest installation on display in Encounters will comprise 18 paper scrolls, each six meters high, painted with soot in intricate patterns.

Hanart TZ Gallery (Hong Kong) will present *Lethargic Aesthetics*, 2012 by Chinese artist Guan Huaibin (*1961). The three meter high inflatable sculpture of a garden rock will expand and contract, giving the impression to be breathing.

Kerlin Gallery (Dublin) will showcase a new commission by British artist Liam Gillick (*1964). Entitled *Complete Bin Development*, 2013, the work consists of a sequence of three meter high towering structures representing open frameworks in a series of permutations. The installation relates to research into possible permutations within car body production, just before completely automated production systems were introduced.

Kukje Gallery (Seoul) will present a new commission by Korean artist Haegue Yang (*1971). The suspended sculpture is constructed from a number of household venetian blinds, attached together to form two giant chandeliers.

Simon Lee Gallery (London and Hong Kong) will show sculptures by American artist Marnie Weber (*1959), providing a textural landscape that establishes the relationships between the characters in Marnie Weber's films, creating a fairytale environment which immerses the viewer into the artist's imagination.

Long March Space (Beijing) will display MadeIn Company's (founded in 2009 in Shanghai by Xu Zhen) latest sculptural installation *Play 201301*, 2013. The suspended sculpture in the shape of a Gothic cathedral is made from a variety of accessories referencing erotic games. Covered with textural fabric, leather, latex, metal and chains, the piece is held in position using the Japanese erotic bondage technique 'Kinbaku'.

Magician Space (Beijing) will present a major installation by Chinese artist Zhuang Hui (*1963). *11 Degree Incline*, 2008 is a giant sculptural replica of a historic symbol appropriated from the Old Summer Palace in Beijing, which was built during the Qing dynasty and was destroyed in 1860 during the Second Opium War in China by British and French forces.

Edouard Malingue Gallery (Hong Kong) will showcase a neon text installation by French artist Laurent Grasso (*1972). Over seven meters wide, *Visibility is a Trap*, 2012 is a direct reference to Michel Foucault's theory of Panopticism as elaborated in the theorist's seminal text 'Discipline and Punish' (1975).

Mizuma Art Gallery (Tokyo) will show *It Means Nothing to Me*, 2012 by British artist Susan Philipsz (*1965). A six channel immersive sound installation, the work will be broadcasting recordings of the artist and her father singing 'The Ash Grove', a song about a lover who has been buried in an ash grove, and which carries particular significance as it references the artist's childhood.

One and J. Gallery (Seoul) will display a new interactive installation by Seung Yul Oh (*1981), constructed from a number of large-scale tube-like inflatables, which visitors will be encouraged to force their way through.

Osage Gallery (Hong Kong) will present *Hong Kong Intervention*, 2009 by Chinese artist Sun Yung (*1974). For this series of 200 photographs, Yung invited 100 Filipino domestic workers to take a picture of their work spaces, with the stipulation that the photograph must include within it a faux, toy grenade, provided by the artist. These images will be presented alongside portraits of the participants taken from behind, articulating the tension between intimacy and estrangement, anonymity and incursion.

Project 88 (Mumbai) will show *A Different Gravity*, 2012, an installation by Raqs Media Collective (*1992), featuring words projected onto furniture and furnishings. The pieces of furniture – a table, a chair, a mirror and a carpet – are suggestive of a room where anticipation reigns, as if something was about to happen.

Galleria S.A.L.E.S (Rome) will display *China Purple*, 2010 by Italian artist Flavio Favelli (*1967). The installation, built from old parts of furniture, forms a room which is open on two sides. The exterior resembles typical furniture from historic Italian bourgeois houses,

contrasted with an interior that is painted in Chinese red lacquer and varnish, decorated with an oriental floral motif appropriated from Amarena Fabbri vases. The clash of styles is assembled as a representation of the artist's experiences of European and Asian styles during his childhood in Italy.

Tang Contemporary Art (Bangkok, Hong Kong and Beijing) will present a hanging sculpture by Beijing-based artist Wang Yuyang (*1980). *Determine*, 2013 will use 3D-modelling software to convert an anonymous short story about an adulterous love affair into a series of codes, 0 and 1, transforming the tale into a three-dimensional model.

NOTES TO EDITORS

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 globe, each show's singular exhibition sectors spotlight the latest developments in the visual arts, offering visitors new ideas and new inspiration.

The first edition of Art Basel in Hong Kong, whose lead partner is Deutsche Bank, will showcase 245 of the world's leading galleries across four sectors. 50 percent of the exhibitors have spaces in Asia and the Asia-Pacific region, underscoring Art Basel's commitment to the region. While the main sector, Galleries, will present premier established galleries from across the world, Insights is dedicated to presenting precise contextual and thematic presentations by many important artists from the art scene in Asia. The Discoveries sector will provide a platform for younger galleries and Encounters will show large-scale sculptural installations by leading artists from around the world.

Partners

The Art Basel show in Hong Kong is supported by Deutsche Bank as Lead Partner, with Davidoff, Audemars Piguet and Absolut Art Bureau as Associate Partners. Absolut Art Bureau is also the Presenting Partner for the Conversations program. Ruinart, Freeports and Swire Properties are the Lounge Host Partners, with BMW supporting as Official Automotive Partner, AXA ART as Official Insurance Partner, Swiss International Air Lines as the Official Carrier and the Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong as Official Hotel Partner. The Financial Times and Modern Media Group are the show's Media Partners.

Important Dates for Media

By invitation only: Wednesday, May 22, 2013

12pm – 5pm Private View

5pm – 9pm Vernissage

Public Show Dates: Thursday, May 23 to Sunday, May 26, 2013

Thursday 12pm – 7pm General entry

Friday	12pm – 7pm	General entry
Saturday	11am – 12pm	VIP entry only
	12pm – 7pm	General entry
Sunday	11am – 12pm	VIP entry only
	12pm – 5pm	General entry

The second edition of Art Basel in Hong Kong will take place May 15 to May 18, 2014, with an Opening Day on May 14, 2014.

For the latest updates on Art Basel, visit artbasel.com. Find us on Facebook, facebook.com/artbasel, and follow us on Twitter, twitter.com/artbasel.

Press Contacts

Art Basel, Dorothee Dines
Tel. +41 58 206 27 06, press@artbasel.com

PR Representatives for Asia
Sutton PR Asia, Tamsin Selby / Erica Siu
Tel: +852 2528 0792, tamsin@suttonprasia.com / erica@suttonprasia.com

PR Representatives for the United States, South America and the UAE
FITZ & CO, Concetta Duncan
Tel. +1 212 627 1455 ext. 232, concetta@fitzandco.com

PR Representatives for Europe
Sutton PR, Sam Talbot
Tel. +44 20 7183 3577, sam@suttonpr.com