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PRESS RELEASE  
BASEL | APRIL | 28 | 2015

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### Film: Art Basel announces 2015 program

Art Basel will present a premier program of film and video work, selected for the first time by Cairo-based film curator and lecturer **Maxa Zoller**. Drawn from the show's participating galleries, highlights of this year's program include **Takashi Murakami's** first feature film 'Jellyfish Eyes' and **Hassan Hajjaj's** new film 'Karima: A Day in the Life of a Henna Girl'. The program will present the long-awaited European premier of 'Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict', an insight into the life of **Peggy Guggenheim** by **Lisa Immordino Vreeland**, selected for the program by film connoisseur **This Brunner**. In addition, Art Basel will collaborate for the first time with the Festival del film Locarno on a special screening. The Film program will also include works by **Julieta Aranda**, **Katie Armstrong**, **Will Benedict & David Leonard**, **Pauline Boudry & Renate Lorenz**, **Kimsooja**, **Oliver Laric**, **Karolin Meunier**, **Laure Prouvost**, **Michael Snow**, **Mounira Al Solh**, **Agnès Varda** and **Kan Xuan**.

Art Basel's Film sector will open with the screening of **Takashi Murakami's** debut feature film 'Jellyfish Eyes' from (2013). The film brings Murakami's brightly-colored fictional characters to the screen for the first time alongside human characters, in a tale set in a small village in the Japanese countryside. With clear references to the Fukushima catastrophe, the children save this fictional world from disaster. The film's aesthetics will be brought to life as some of the artist's fantastical creatures will be present at the Art Basel screening, which will be followed by a Q&A with **Takashi Murakami** and **Maxa Zoller**. **Takashi Murakami's** film will be shown at 8.30pm on Monday, June 15, 2015.

The Film program will also feature 'Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict', being screened for the first time in Europe. **Lisa Immordino Vreeland's** documentary is an intimate portrait of an art world icon, and will be shown at 7.30pm on Saturday, June 20, 2015.

**Hassan Hajjaj's** first feature-length film, 'Karima: A Day in the Life of a Henna Girl', depicts the lives of the 'henna girls' providing the viewer with a glimpse into the life of Moroccan women working in the Jemaa el-Fnaa, the historic market in Marrakesh and the world which inspires most of Hajjaj's work. As part of the 'Lines of Beauty' program, the feature is screened alongside **Kimsooja's** 'Thread Routes - Chapter II'. **Kimsooja's** film explores the uniquely female craft of making bobbin lace, echoing the beautiful hand craft of Henna painting in Hajjaj's film, both firmly rooted in tradition. **Hassan Hajjaj** will be present for a Q&A after the screening of 'Karima: A Day in the Life of a Henna Girl' at 8.30pm on Wednesday, June 17, 2015.

Art Basel and Festival del film Locarno will collaborate on a special screening of film works by **Duncan Campbell**, including 'It For Others', for which he won the Turner Prize in 2014. The screening will be followed by a discussion with the artist about his work and will take place at 8pm on Friday, June 19.

As part of the Short Film program on Tuesday, June 16 at 8pm, 'Voices from the Off' will present five contemporary female artists whose films and videos present different approaches to the notion of language and voice, a subject that has received new artistic and curatorial attention in recent years. The second Short Film program 'Morph my Mind!'

will be screened at 10pm. These surreal shorts, which include works by the pioneering **Michael Snow** as well as **Ed Atkins**, explore the limits of digital image production. Later in the week, the great cinema verite director **Agnès Varda** will feature in 'Food (in) Chains', another curated program that focuses on the way in which artists deal with the increasing problem behind food production and waste. 'Food (in) Chains' will be shown at 8.30pm on Thursday, June 18.

Screened at Stadtkino Basel, the Film program will run from Monday, June 15 to Saturday, June 20.

For the full gallery list for Film, please visit: [artbasel.com/basel/film](http://artbasel.com/basel/film).

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## DETAILED FILM PROGRAM

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### Monday, June 15, 2015

**8.30pm | Takashi Murakami | Jellyfish Eyes, 2013 | Blum & Poe**  
Running time 100', selected by Maxa Zoller

In Takashi Murakami's first feature film, the world is saved from another nuclear disaster by a gang of young children whose quirky imaginary friends emerge from mobile phones at the click of a button battle with a giant monster symbolic of nuclear disaster. This film goes down like cotton candy, but it also pursues the artist's obsession with the way in which Japan deals with its historic traumas. Bring along the kids!

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Takashi Murakami and Maxa Zoller. Takashi Murakami will be bringing some of his fantastic creatures from the film so that visitors can take pictures with them, before and after the screening. Come early and take a selfie!

### Tuesday, June 16, 2015

**8.30pm | Short Film program | Voices from the Off**  
Running time 56'; curated by Maxa Zoller

'Voices from the Off' presents five artists' films that investigate the relationship between the ways we experience the world and the ways we address this experience through language. The program looks at that which is 'on the tip of my tongue', that which cannot be spoken for psychological, linguistic or semiotic reasons. These films are formally conceptual and rich in theory, but they do feature a relationship between image, language and audience that is rather visceral, sometimes almost culinary.

**Karolin Meunier**, *Anfangsszene*, 2015, 7'45", **courtesy of the artist**  
**Mounira Al Solh**, *Now Eat my Script*, 2014, 24'50", **Sfeir-Semler Gallery**  
**Kan Xuan**, *Object*, 2003, 6'25", **Galleria Continua**  
**Pauline Boudry & Renate Lorenz**, *Opaque*, 2014, 10', **Ellen de Bruijne Projects**,  
**Marcelle Alix**  
**Laure Prouvost**, *It Heat Hit*, 2010, 7'21", **MOT International**

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Pauline Boudry, Karolin Meunier and Maxa Zoller.

### **10pm | Short Film program | Morph My Mind!**

Running time 54'; curated by Maxa Zoller

Morphing is a special effect in filmmaking that changes one image or shape into another through a seamless transition. Digital morphing is a key element of post-cinematic animation and has fundamentally changed the meaning of the moving image. This screening presents five pioneering artists whose primarily surreal works explore the ways in which new morph culture pushes the limits of image production – and of our imagination.

**Katie Armstrong**, *Once More, Once More*, 2011, 4'30", **Galerie Eigen + Art**

**Oliver Laric**, *Untitled*, 2015, 10', **Tanya Leighton**

**Michael Snow**, *The Living Room*, 2000, 20'20", **Jack Shainman Gallery**

**Ed Atkins**, *Even Pricks*, 2013, 8', Cabinet, **Galerie Isabella Bortolozzi**

**Julieta Aranda**, *What Right?* 2014, 9'34", **OMR**

### **Wednesday, June 17, 2015**

#### **8.30pm | Film program | Lines of Beauty**

Running time 99'; curated by Maxa Zoller

Lacing, dyeing, drawing: there are many lines of beauty in these special films by South Korean artist Kimsooja and Moroccan-born Hassan Hajjaj. From 'straight-laced' to arabesque, this screening looks at the beautiful ancient female crafts of making bobbin lace and henna painting, which are not only based on intricate movements and meditative concentration, but also relate deeply to local histories and environments. These visually stunning films are a feast for the eyes (and the ears).

**Kimsooja**, *Thread Routes - Chapter II*, 2011, 23'40", **Kukje Gallery / Tina Kim Gallery**

**Hassan Hajjaj**, *Karima: a day in the life of a henna girl*, 2015, 71', **The Third Line**

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Kimsooja, Hassan Hajjaj and Maxa Zoller.

### **Thursday, June 18, 2015**

#### **8.30pm | Film program | Food (in) Chains**

Running time 107'; curated by Maxa Zoller

Food production and the resulting waste have become a global and personal problem that confronts us every time we dig into our meals. How do artists address this urgent issue? (Or rather: do they?) In this program the great Agnès Varda, early pioneer of Nouvelle Vague cinema and an established artist, and the enfant terrible Will Benedict, take local and global problems of food consumption as a starting point for the making of two very different, yet equally poetic, personal and often (very) funny films.

**Will Benedict & David Leonard**, *Toilets Not Temples*, 2014, 25', **Gió Marconi, Bortolami**

**Agnès Varda**, *Les Glaneurs et la Glaneuse*, 82', 2000, **Ciné Tamaris,**

**Galerie Nathalie Obadia**

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Will Benedict and Maxa Zoller.

**Friday, June 19, 2015**

**8pm | Special screening | An Evening with Duncan Campbell**

Running time 104'; curated by Sergio Fant, programmer Festival del film Locarno

To launch their new collaboration, Art Basel and Festival del film Locarno have invited Duncan Campbell to screen and discuss a selection of his moving image works, including 'It For Others', winner of the Turner Prize 2014. Campbell's films and videos excellently represent the tradition of research carried out by the Locarno festival.

**Duncan Campbell**, *Oh Joan, No*, 2006, 12', **Rodeo**

**Duncan Campbell**, *Bernadette*, 2008, 38'10", **Rodeo**

**Duncan Campbell**, *It For Others*, 2008, 54', **Rodeo**

**Saturday, June 20, 2015**

**7.30pm | Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict | Lisa Immordino Vreeland**

2015, running time 94'; selected by This Brunner

Based on her life story, 'Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict' is an intimate portrait of art-world icon Peggy Guggenheim, who was a central figure of the modern art movement. As Peggy Guggenheim moved through the cultural upheaval of the 20th century, she collected not only art, but artists. Her colorful personal history included figures such as Samuel Beckett, Max Ernst, Jackson Pollock, Alexander Calder, Marcel Duchamp and countless others. While fighting through personal tragedy, she maintained her vision of building one of the most important collections of modern art, now enshrined in her Venetian palazzo. The film is a compendium of the greatest 20th-century art intertwined with the wild and iconoclastic life of one of the most influential women in the art world.

**Admission**

Film tickets are CHF 16.

Holders of Art Basel VIP cards, Art Basel tickets, and exhibitor passes can pick up a free ticket at the Stadtkino Basel box office.

The Stadtkino Basel box office opens 30 minutes prior to the screenings. As seating is limited, please email [film@artbasel.com](mailto:film@artbasel.com) for advance ticket reservation or visit the Film information desk at Art Basel, entrance area of Hall 2.

**Address**

Stadtkino Basel

Klostergasse 5 4051 Basel

Tram number 1 (direction SBB) or 2 (direction Binningen) from Messeplatz to Bankverein. From Bankverein it is a 3-minute walk to the Stadtkino.

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**NOTES TO EDITORS**

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**About the Curators**

**This Brunner**

This Brunner has over 40 years of experience in the film industry in Switzerland and abroad. He is a member of the European Film Academy and the Swiss Film Academy, and a well informed observer of the world cinema and the international film festival scene. He has been the curator of Art Basel's Film sector since 1992, and Film curator for Art Basel in Miami Beach since 2002.

## **Maxa Zoller**

Maxa Zoller is a film curator and art lecturer based in Cairo. Zoller has presented experimental film screenings at Tate Modern, South London Gallery, Filmmuseum Munich and the Centre of Contemporary Art Geneva. Currently, she is co-curating a solo exhibition of Anthony McCall at EYE Filmmuseum, Amsterdam. A former lecturer at Goldsmiths College and Sotheby's Institute of Art, Maxa Zoller developed a keen interest in alternative pedagogical tools; she created the workshop series The Cinematic Body, which was presented in different contexts in Oslo, Vienna, Munich and Cairo. Zoller collaborates closely with the artist-run space no.w.here in London, where she led the first edition of the no.w.here summer school in 2012. This will be the first time Maxa Zoller curates the Art Basel Film program.

## **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.

## **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

**Press accreditation:**

Online registration for press accreditation is now open and will close on Wednesday, June 3, 2015. Please visit [artbasel.com/accreditation](http://artbasel.com/accreditation).

**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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