
PRESS RELEASE

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Theater Basel and Art Basel to present the Swiss premiere of Douglas Gordon's 'Bound to Hurt' this June

Art Basel, in collaboration with Theater Basel, is delighted to announce the Swiss premiere of musical theater 'Bound to Hurt', which will be staged in Basel from June, 16 – 18, 2016. 'Bound to Hurt' is a collaboration between Laura Berman, Opera Director at Theater Basel; the artist Douglas Gordon; the performer and soprano Ruth Rosenfeld; British composer Philip Venables and the German-Icelandic Ensemble Adapter.

Turner Prize-winning artist **Douglas Gordon** stages a dark musical performance exploring the sensitive topic of domestic violence. Using a compilation of popular cover songs as its basis, Gordon, one of the world's most influential video and installation artists, has developed this stage work in collaboration with British composer **Philip Venables**. In 'Bound to Hurt' songs by artists as diverse as Donna Summer, Jacques Brel, alongside more experimental music by Throbbing Gristle, are reimagined as surreal fantasies of violence. The musical score is written especially for the extremely versatile singer and performer **Ruth Rosenfeld**, best-known for her collaborations with theatre directors Frank Castorf and Herbert Fritsch. Rosenfeld will be accompanied by the German-Icelandic chamber music **Ensemble Adapter**, who are one of the most experimental and genre-crossing groups in New Music.

Douglas Gordon's practice encompasses video and film, installation, sculpture, photography and text. Through his work, Gordon investigates human conditions like memory and the passage of time, as well as universal dualities such as life and death, good and evil, right and wrong. 'Bound to Hurt' is a performance which crosses different media and which spans between different emotional states such as love and hate, tenderness and aggression.

The Basel premiere of 'Bound to Hurt' will be presented in collaboration with Art Basel.

'Bound to Hurt' is a collaboration with HAU (Hebbel am Ufer), Berlin, Internationales Sommerfestival Kampnagel, Hamburg and Theater Basel, supported by Hauptstadtkulturfonds, Berlin.

Performances

Thursday, June 16, 2016, 9pm-10pm, Theater Basel, Kleine Bühne

Friday, June 17, 2016, 9pm-10pm, Theater Basel, Kleine Bühne

Saturday, June 18, 2016, 9pm-10pm, Theater Basel, Kleine Bühne

Tickets: 60CHF

To buy tickets, please visit theater-basel.ch

Duration: 55min

In English language

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Douglas Gordon

Douglas Gordon was born in Glasgow in 1966. After receiving a BA at the Glasgow School of Art from 1988, Gordon undertook a post-graduate program at the Slade School of Art in London from 1988 to 1990. Gordon's oeuvre has been exhibited globally and his film works have been presented at many competitions, including the Festival de Cannes, the Toronto International Film Festival, and the International Venice Film Festival. He was the recipient of the 1996 Turner Prize, the 1997 Venice Biennial's Premio 2000 award, the 1998 Hugo Boss Prize awarded by the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the 2008 Roswitha Haftmann Prize, and the 2012 Käthe Kollwitz Prize.

Douglas Gordon is represented internationally by Gagosian Gallery, by Galerie Eva Presenhuber in Zürich, Dvir Gallery in Tel Aviv and by Until Then in Paris.

About Philip Venables

British composer Philip Venables' music addresses violence and sexuality, in both a concert and interdisciplinary context. He has a special interest for spoken word in a musical setting.

About Ensemble Adapter

Ensemble Adapter is a German-Icelandic ensemble for contemporary music based in Berlin. The core of the group consists of a quartet with flute, clarinet, harp and percussion. Together with steady guest instrumentalists the ensemble grows into chamber music settings with up to 10 players.

About Theater Basel

Theater Basel is Switzerland's largest three-branch-theatre and offers a wide-ranging program in opera, ballet and drama. It has been awarded several times 'Theatre of the Year', 'Opera of the Year' and 'Chorus of the Year'. Around 600 performances of about 40 new productions can be seen each season from September to June on the theatre's three stages. Theater Basel's Artistic Director Andreas Beck and his team have initiated several international cooperations and coproductions for the 2015/16 season with international festivals and theatres such as the Holland Festival, the Wiener Festwochen, the Vienna Burgtheater, Internationales Sommerfestival Kampnagel Hamburg, HAU Hebbel am Ufer Berlin and the Art Basel.

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.

Partners

UBS, global Lead Partner of Art Basel, has supported the organization for more than 20 years. As Art Basel's global network expanded, UBS increased its lead partnership to include all three shows: Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong. In addition, 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'.

Art Basel's Associate Partners, supporting all three shows, are Davidoff – the prestigious Swiss cigar brand, whose Davidoff Art Initiative encompasses residencies, art dialogs and grants; Audemars Piguet – the independent high-end watch manufacturer, whose expanding activities in contemporary art include the Audemars Piguet Art Commission; and NetJets – the world leader in private aviation. BMW, the renowned car manufacturer, has co-developed with Art Basel the BMW Art Journey, enabling the winning artist to design a journey of creative discovery. Additionally, Art Basel is supported globally by Ruinart, Official Champagne Partner, and Sennheiser, Official Audio Partner.

Art Basel's show in Basel has partnerships with Baloise Group, AXA ART, Vienna Tourist Board and ARVI. Art Basel's Media Partners are The Financial Times and Neue Zürcher Zeitung. For further information about partnerships, please visit artbasel.com/partners.

Important Dates for Media

Preview (by invitation):

Tuesday June 14, 2016 and Wednesday June 15, 2016

Public opening dates and hours:

Thursday June 16, 2016 – Sunday June 19, 2016: 11am-7pm

Press accreditation:

Online press accreditation is now open.

Please note that as of 2016 it will no longer be possible to accredit onsite. Therefore it is important to register online by June 12, 2016. Please visit artbasel.com/accreditation.

Upcoming Art Basel shows

Basel, June 16-19, 2016

Miami Beach, December 1-4, 2016

Hong Kong, March 23-25, 2017

Media information online

Media information and images can be downloaded directly from artbasel.com/press. Journalists can subscribe to our media mailings to receive information on Art Basel.

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