CARRE RIVE GAUCHE | ART WORLD ALL-STARS | BASEL BECKONS | ZHANG HUAN

## BLOUINARTAUCTION

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE FOR ART COLLECTORS

**JUNE 2015** 



## ART BASEL 2015

he 46th edition of Art Basel gets under way June 18 with reinvigorated curator sectors, expanded participation from Asian galleries, and a large-scale outdoor commission by Rirkrit Tiravanija, Nikolaus Hirsch, Michel Müller, and Antto Melasniemi at the entrance of the Messe to engage visually overtaxed attendees' other senses. Titled Do We Dream Under the Same Sky, the work features a sustainable garden and café and encourages fairgoers to participate in preparing the food they eat.

"For me, moving-image art is the starting point, but it is the viewer

whom I want to reach," says Cairobased curator and critic Maxa Zoller of this year's Film sector. "Our intention is to present the viewer with aesthetic ideas that resonate with their own experiences and affinities." Notable offerings include Jellyfish Eyes, the first feature film by visual artist Takashi Murakami, who uses Mangainspired characters to underscore his fascination with how Japan has dealt with traumas of the past.

Large-scale presentations in the Gianni Jetzer-curated Unlimited section include An Extended Gray Scale, 1973, by octogenarian artist Marcia Hafif. The work, which has never been exhibited in its entirety, is composed of 106 canvases that shift in tone from white to black.

"An increased presence of Asian galleries is evident at the fair's Basel edition," says Art Basel Asia director Adeline Ooi, citing newcomers Tokyo Gallery + BTAP, which is presenting a show of Mono-ha works from the 1960s in the Feature sector, and Beijing-based Platform China, which is offering a work in the Statements sector by Zhao Zhao in which the artist explores the role of social

gatherings from the Ming Dynasty to the present. Other Statements highlights include a site-specific project by Raphael Hefti at Zurich-based RaebervonStenglin, in which the Swiss artist will create aluminum sculptures that will "operate" during the show; and, at the booth of Third Line from Dubai, Abbas Akhavan's

botanically inspired *Study* for a Hanging Garden, 2013–14.

Notable offerings, from left, include Fernand Léger's Nature Morte (Profil orange), 1928, available from Moeller Fine Art; Simone Leigh's Herero Dress (cobalt), 2015, from Tilton Gallery; and Zhao Zhao's Untitled, 2013, from Platform China.

## THE ESSENTIALS

The 46th edition of the fair, which runs June 18 through 21 at the Messe, welcomes 284 galleries from 33 countries within its seven show sectors:

GALLERIES The show's primary section features a strong list of 223 dealers offering works across all media. Newcomers to the sector include Rodeo of Istanbul and London; Take Ninagawa of Tokyo; and London gallerist Vilma Gold.

FEATURE The sector hosts 30 curated gallery booths. Highlights include a selection of works by John Cage, including an I Ching-

based piece dedicated to Marcel Duchamp, Not Wanting to Say Anything About Marcel, 1969, from James Cohan Gallery.

STATEMENTS The work of emerging artists is offered by 16 galleries, half of which are new to the show. Among the solo presentations is a two-part film by British artist Beatrice Gibson, at the booth of Laura Bartlett Gallery.

UNLIMITED Under the curatorial eye of Gianni Jetzer, the sector presents 73 works, including large-scale sculptures, installations, and paintings, as well as performance.

FILM • Curated for the first time by Maxa Zoller, the sector offers a weeklong program of works by and about artists.

PARCOURS Site-specific

sculptures and performances, which will take place throughout the city, comprise the Florence Derieux-curated sector.

**EDITION** Host to 15 publishers that specialize in editioned works, prints, and multiples produced in collaboration with artists.

Additional programming includes salon events that feature talks and panel discussions.