

MANIFESTA 11

Media Notice
Zurich, 29 September 2015

Attachment to the Press Kit

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1_ CV Hedwig Fijen, Manifesta Director

Hedwig Fijen was born in the Netherlands and studied History and History of Art at the University of Amsterdam. She is founding director of Manifesta, the European Biennial of Contemporary art, since its origin in Rotterdam in 1993. Fijen is in charge of all aspects of the Manifesta organization including the selection of Host cities, thematic content and the curatorial selection. The final execution of the concept of the curators is her responsibility. Under Fijen's direction Manifesta has been developed into the fourth most influential biennial in the world. Over this period, Fijen has vastly expanded Manifesta's operations with theoretical and educational projects including the Manifesta Journal, Manifesta Publications and the Manifesta Coffee breaks.

2_ CV Christian Jankowski, Manifesta 11 Curator

Christian Jankowski (Goettingen, 1968) studied at the University of Fine Arts in Hamburg (Germany). In his artistic actions and media artworks, he makes use of film, video, and photography, but also painting, sculpture, and installation. Jankowski's work consists of performative interactions between himself and non-art professionals, between contemporary art and the so-called 'world outside of art'. During the course of his artistic career, Jankowski has collaborated with magicians, politicians, news anchors, and members of the Vatican, to name just a few. Jankowski registers these performative collaborations using the mass media formats in which he stages his work—film, photography, television, newspapers. This procedure lends his work its populist appeal. Jankowski's work can be seen both as a reflection, deconstruction, and a critique of a society based on spectacle. In his view, art has turned into a spectacle, and as a result, has undermined its critical potential.

3_ CV + Project Sketch John Arnold

Born 1975 in Bristol, Tennessee, USA. 1998 Bachelor in art, art history, English literature and cultural criticism at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville (VA), and 2012 Master of Fine Arts in Painting at the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago (IL), currently lives and works in Berlin. Since 1998, he has taken part in numerous exhibitions in the US and Germany, including several collaborations with diverse international artists.

For Manifesta 11, the American artist and designer John Arnold is planning a collaboration with his host Fabian Spiquel, 1-star Michelin chef from the Maison Manesse, aimed at reinterpreting dishes that were served at state banquets which were of great importance to Switzerland. These culinary creations will be served at a range of the existing "Imbisse" (take-aways and snack bars) in Zurich, which the artist has renamed "Imbissies". The origins of this idea are to be found in the English word "Embassy" and the German term "Imbiss". Through the simple act of sharing a meal, they will build a bridge between diverse social levels: the "Imbissadores" and their regular customers will be brought together with official employees of embassies, leading to new forms of multi-lateral diplomacy. *(Subject to Change)*

4_ CV + Project Sketch Mike Bouchet

Born in 1970 in Castro Valley, California, USA. 1994 Degree at the University of California, Los Angeles (CA), currently lives and works in Frankfurt. Since 1998, he has taken part in numerous biennials, including the 47th and 53th Biennale di Venezia, the 4th Berlin Biennale in 2006 and the 30th São Paulo Biennale in 2012. Various solo and group exhibitions in Europe, the US and South America, among them Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, the Centre Georges Pompidou, the Palais de Tokyo, Paris, the Serpentine Gallery, London, the Kunsthalle Bern and the MoMA P.S.1, Long Island City, New York.

For Manifesta 11, Mike Bouchet will collaborate with the municipal water treatment plant Werdhoelzli to create an oversized sculpture made of effluent sludge. Its size will have a direct, metaphorical relation to the amount – approx. 110 tonnes – of waste products generated daily by the city's inhabitants. All aspects of this artwork (research, transport, installation, disassembly and disposal) will be carried out in close co-operation with the treatment plant, especially his host, department manager Philipp Sigg, to ensure compliance with the safety regulations of the City of Zurich.

(Subject to Change)

5_ Information on the Main Exhibition Venues (Institutions)

Loewenbraeu-Areal

Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst www.migrosmuseum.ch

Since 1996, the Migros Museum of Contemporary Art stands for exhibiting, collecting, and mediating international contemporary art. Over two floors, it presents single and group exhibitions and works from its own collection. The internationally renowned museum sees itself as a dynamic and vibrant place for presenting contemporary art. This includes its extensive mediation and support programmes.

Kunsthalle Zurich www.kunsthallezurich.ch

Founded in 1985 as a club, Kunsthalle Zurich has firmly established itself as one of the big names in Zurich's cultural landscape, a place for exhibitions, events, functions and publications with a national and international reach. Its main focus is on exchange and dialogue with contemporary art and with visitors. Hence, Kunsthalle Zurich is considered a meeting place for different people: for students, children, artists and residents of the neighbourhood in Zurich-West. Located in the former Loewenbraeu brewery, it co-launched a unique model: a single house combining museums, galleries and private collections.

LUMA Westbau / POOL etc. www.westbau.com

The LUMA foundation has both its headquarters and main exhibition rooms in Zurich, in the refurbished and extended Loewenbraeukunst-Areal. LUMA Westbau / POOL etc. opened in June 2013 with the first of four pilot POOL exhibitions, showing works from the collections of Maja Hoffmann and Michael Ringier. It makes use of a „POOL“ of works from private collections and aims to stimulate new curatorial models with a post-graduate training programme for curators, accompanied by mentors. POOL accounts for a third of the programme of the exhibition space LUMA Westbau / POOL and mainly presents international projects, exhibitions and events produced by the LUMA foundation.

Helmhaus www.museums.ch/org/de/Helmhaus

The Helmhaus exhibits contemporary art created in the vibrant Swiss scene. The scene in Zurich receives special attention. Every year, five exhibitions are realised, in which about a hundred artists display their works. The entire diversity of artistic media and all the generations get their chance. Every year, artists present the works with which they apply for residencies in international ateliers or stipends. Publications accompany many of the exhibitions. The Helmhaus builds a bridge to the public with tours for adults and children. Concerts, discussions, artist talks, readings, film screening and book presentations related to the subject matter of the exhibitions are held regularly.

Cabaret Voltaire www.cabaretvoltaire.ch

“Dada“ was one of the most important avant-garde movements in art and literature in the early 20th century. As the birthplace of “Dada“, Cabaret Voltaire in the Zurich district

of Niederdorf is an important cultural and culture-historical location. The competence centre for contemporary philosophical and artistic exchange with Dada offers a diverse programme of discussions, actions and exhibitions. Cabaret Voltaire offered the Dadaists a protected space, which, akin to a hospital delivery room, is clean, safe and dry. A place where people could let themselves go. Today, Cabaret Voltaire still aims to be a place that resists practicability and in which one can lose oneself orgiastically, contrary to everything that is useful and practical – to address questions that already occupied the Dadaists back then and remain relevant and topical to this day.

6_ETH Partners

ETH Studio Emerson www.emerson.arch.ethz.ch

The Studio Tom Emerson represents a chair of research and teaching at the Architecture Department of the ETH Zurich. In collective projects, the students explore the architectural potential of re-use and bricolage. They design and build constructions on the scale of 1:1, based on stock-taking in post-industrial European cities. This inventory of existing material and means is at the core of bricolage. If the task is judged on the scale of a single person, the inventory appears simple: material and tools says. It is from this stance that, under the direction of Professor Tom Emerson, the „Pavillon of Reflections“ is being developed for Manifesta 11.

ETH Assistant Professor Prof. Dr. Alex Lehnerer www.lehnerer.arch.ethz.ch

The assistant professor for architecture and urban construction, Prof. Dr. Alex Lehnerer, is taking part in Manifesta 11 in 2016 in conjunction with the conversion of Cabaret Voltaire into a Guild House of the Artists. „Our motivation is to understand architecture as a cultural practice and understand it as a social medium „, says Lehnerer. Re-interpreting what already exists transforms Cabaret Voltaire into a performative venue at the Biennial and allows us to explore experimentally, along with students of the ETH, conceptually speculative design work using a concrete project that is to be realised. Prof. Dr. Alex Lehnerer and Savvas Ciriacidis run the architecture bureau CiriacidisLehnerer in Zurich.

Manifesta 11 Zurich

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