

Swiss Emerging Artist Prize 2022

13/5–7/8/2022

Opening:
Thursday May 12, 2022
6pm

In partnership with
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The Swiss Emerging Artist Prize demonstrates our long-term commitment to the local contemporary art scene.

Franck Bonin

CEO, Societe Generale Private Banking
Switzerland

The Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève is pleased to present a group exhibition of Swiss artists and artists working in Switzerland that brings together Mathis Altmann, Louisa Gagliardi, Deborah Joyce Holman, Tina Omayemi Reden and Dorian Sari.

The fruit of a partnership with Societe Generale Private Banking Switzerland, the exhibition highlights the emerging Swiss contemporary art scene while encouraging exchange and dialogue between these young artists and the rich cultural context of Geneva.

The works presented illustrate a broad diversity of approaches: painting, sculpture, installation and video art – the practice of the artists taking part in the Swiss Emerging Artist Prize 2022 is mainly multidisciplinary.

As visitors pass through the exhibition, they discover paintings that strangely tackle the past and present; striking installations that echo current economic and social realities; assemblages that are polyphonic or composed of LED screens and lights, but also challenging sculptures and video works. The works cite irony, disquiet and mildness in turn. They reflect the concerns of the young contemporary art scene, encompassing political commitment, social cohesion and reinterpretations of reality.

The exhibition is organized in the context of the Swiss Emerging Artist Prize founded in 2018 by Societe Generale Private Banking Switzerland (SGPBS), which rewards an artist aged no more than 35 who has developed a coherent and original approach. In the first step of the process, a group of curators selected the 15 artists who would participate in the competition. Out of these, the 5 artists featured in the exhibition were then chosen by a panel composed of Andrea Bellini (director of the Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève and curator of the exhibition), Giovanni Carmine (director of the Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen), Laurent Issaurat (head of Art Banking at Societe Generale Private Banking Switzerland), Kabelo Malatsie (director of the Kunsthalle Bern) and Bettina Steinbrügge (director of the Mudam Luxembourg – Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean).

Since its launch, the Swiss Emerging Artist Prize has already contributed to the development of the work of two young artists. In its first year in 2018, the prize was awarded to the Basel-based artist Hannah Weinberger, who was subsequently invited by the Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève to produce a pioneering immersive and participatory exhibition with the support of SGPBS. In 2020, thanks to the recognition brought by the prize, Lorenza Longhi was able to develop new projects, at the Kunsthalle Zurich in particular.

The announcement of the winning artist of the 2022 edition will be made on 23 June.

The exhibition will be open from May 13 to August 7, 2022. Free entry.

Biographies

Mathis Altmann

Born in Munich, Germany, 1987

Lives and works between Zurich and Berlin

Mathis Altmann is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice is formally based on the principle of assemblage, a three-dimensional form of collage first explored by early modernists close to the Dada movement. Altmann's primary interest evolves around the ideal of social development and its implication for the lifestyle of the millennial generation. He confronts economic realities and social values within the meritocracy, analyzing the social media discourses of self-fulfillment and authenticity. Taking the form of wall objects combined with stainless steel mirrors and LED matrix screens, his works invite the viewer to a material reflection of commodified ideals, work and leisure habits.

Recent solo exhibitions include Fitzpatrick Gallery, Paris (2022), Amalgamate, Kunstmuseum Winterthur (2021) and Butcher Block, Efremidis Gallery, Berlin (2021). Notable recent group exhibitions include, *Nimmersatt? Gesellschaft ohne Wachstum denken*, Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster (2021), *ANNEMARIE VON MATT. JE NE M'ENNUIE JAMAIS, ON M'ENNUIE*, Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris (2021) and *It's Urgent* (cur. by Hans Ulrich Obrist), Luma Westbau, Zurich (2021).

Altmann is the recipient of the 2021 Manor Art Prize and the 2016 winner of the Prix Mobilière.

Altmann obtained a Bachelor of Fine Art from Zurich University of Arts (ZHdK) in 2012.

Since 2016, he has been working as a guest lecturer at the same institution.

The artist is represented by Freedman Fitzpatrick Gallery, Los Angeles (USA) and Fitzpatrick Gallery, Paris (France).

Louisa Gagliardi

Born in Sion, 1989

Lives and works in Zurich

Louisa Gagliardi's practice takes figurative painting to a place of alienating imagery, drawing inspiration from contemporary graphic design and advertising. Usually starting as drawings, her paintings are then rendered digitally on a computer and printed with ink on vinyl. The glazed, almost fluid surface of her works is amplified by a gel medium texture applied manually that confronts the digital nature of the work with its physicality. The artist borrows motifs and themes from the past but plays with expectations as she brings her subjects to a liminal status, letting the viewer imagine the narratives that they hide. The result is uncanny images that provoke dizziness and a sensation of discomfort.

Recent solo and duo exhibitions include *Louisa Gagliardi and Yves Scherer*, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, New York (2022), USA and *Wishful Thinking*, Antenna Space, Shanghai, China (2020). This year Gagliardi has participated in two group shows; *Sausage Party*, Rodolphe Janssen, Brussels, Belgium, and *Jean-Maria Appriou, Amy Feldman, Louisa Gagliardi, Kris Lemsalu, Conny Maier, Sofia Mitsola, Tobias Pils*, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, Switzerland. Her work was recently presented at Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève in the context of the collective show *Lemania*.

Louisa Gagliardi obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Design from the Ecole Cantonale d'art de Lausanne (ECAL) in 2012.

Louisa Gagliardi is represented by Rodolphe Janssen Gallery (Brussels), Eva Presenhuber Gallery (Zurich & New York) and Dawid Radziszewski (Warsaw).

Deborah Joyce Holman

Born in Basel, 1991

Lives and works between Basel and London

Deborah Joyce Holman is a multidisciplinary artist whose work sits in the tensions between the value and dangers of visibility and representation. Holman is interested in strategies of refusal, which include opacity, illegibility and absence as Black and queer counter-hegemonic stances. They explore these themes through a variety of media, including text, image-making, moving image, sculpture and installation, led by their research of popular contemporary and archival visual cultures.

Holman has recently shown at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London (2022); Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris (2022), Kunstverein Last Tango, Zurich (2022), Unfinished Live, The Shed, New York City & House of Electronic Arts, Basel (2021) and the 7th Athens Biennial (2021), amongst others. In 2021, she was nominated for the Kiefer Hablitzel Göhner Kunstpreis. Her work was recently presented at Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève in the context of the collective show *Lemania*.

Forthcoming scheduled exhibitions include schwarzescafé, Luma Westbau, Zurich, Sentiment, Zurich, Istituto Svizzero, Palermo, and KEUR, Paris.

As part of her curatorial practice, she worked as Associate Director (2020–2021) and as Associate Curator (2021–2022) at East London Auto Italia. She is the founding director of 1.1, a platform for early-career practitioners in arts, music and text-based practices, with an exhibition space in Basel, Switzerland, which ran 2015 – 2020. Holman has curated the 2018 and 2019 annual group exhibitions for Les Urbaines, Lausanne.

Deborah Joyce Holman obtained a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art from HEAD – Genève in 2018. In 2019–2020 she participated in the CAMPUS independent study programme at Nottingham Contemporary.

Tina Omayemi Reden

Born in Zurich, 1991

Lives and works in Zurich

Tina Omayemi Reden is a multifaceted artist, activist, teacher, cultural and community worker. Her artistic practice employs sound installation, storytelling and performance in an exploration of the potential for communal exchange and transformation. She mixes, remixes and quotes bodies, sounds and voices into polyphonic assemblages and fictive or actual collaborations. The artist seeks to question Western cultural codes and accepted wisdom by paying homage to the ones who have shaped and inspired queer and Blackfeminist thought and practices.

The artist is an active member of the network Bla*Sh (Black*She) and the collective FUBU (For Us By Us) in Zurich where she co-organizes and curates events, get-togethers, panel discussions or parties. As an artist, organizer, activist and teacher, as asister and aunty, a mother and friend, she continually questions: How do I listen? Who am I listening to? Which voices, narratives, images, and perspectives are amplified how and where, which are mastered, which are sampled by whom, and which fade away and why?

Tina Oyamemi Reden has taught, mentored and offered workshops at several art schools in Switzerland and the Netherlands (ZHdK-Master Transdisciplinarity and Bachelor Fine Arts, ArtEz Arnhem-Bachelor Fine Arts, HSLU-Bachelor Art and Mediation and others). She has worked with spaces such as Shedhalle, Gessnerallee, LUMA Westbau or OOR Saloon in Zurich, Centre d'art Neuchâtel in Neuchâtel, Kunsthaus Langenthal, Stroom in The Hague, Kunstverein Amsterdam and as well as international radio stations.

Tina Omayemi Reden obtained a Master's degree in Fine Art from the Sandberg Institute Amsterdam in 2019 and a Bachelor of Arts with distinction from the Zurich University of Art (ZHdK) in 2017.

Dorian Sari

Born in Izmir, Turkey, 1989

Lives and works in Basel and Geneva

A keen observer of politics, emotions and social movements, Sari places the study of human nature and cultures at the center of their work. They create sculptures and video installations, sometimes made from materials found on the street and from a multitude of narratives, hence elaborating fictional universes based on psychoanalytic interpretations of our world. By exposing structures of violence and distorted ideologies, they draw our attention to a post-truth era and confronts us with an urgent topic of our time: our systems of trust.

In 2020, Sari received the Manor Kunstpreis and the Swiss Performance Art Award. They also received the Swiss Art Awards and the Kunstcredit Prize in 2019 and the Kiefer Hablitzel Göhner Kunstpreis of the Swiss Art Awards in 2018. In 2021, they had a solo exhibition at the Kunstmuseum Basel Gegenwart (Basel, Switzerland). Other recent exhibitions include solo shows at Wilde (Basel, Switzerland), Centre Culturel Suisse Paris (France) and Kunst(Zeug)Haus Rapperswil-Jona (Switzerland). Other exhibitions include group shows at Kunsthalle Basel (Switzerland), Wilde Gallery (Geneva and Basel, Switzerland), DAMA Foundation (Turin, Italy), Swiss Art Awards (Basel, Switzerland), Kunsthaus Baselland (Switzerland), Sesc Belenzinho (Sao Paulo, Brazil), Maison des Arts de Malakoff (Paris, France) and International Red Cross Museum (Geneva, Switzerland).

Sari obtained a Masters in Visual Arts from the Institut Kunst, Basel in 2016 and a Bachelor in Visual Arts, option Sculpture, from HEAD Geneve in 2012. They also have a degree in Political Science and Languages (Swedish & Italian) from the University Sorbonne (Paris IV) and a B.A. in Greek Literature from University Sorbonne (Paris IV).

Dorian Sari is represented by Wilde Gallery Geneva and Gallery Öktem Aykut Istanbul.

Jury



Andrea Bellini

Andrea Bellini is the director of the Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève and the artistic director of the Biennale de l'Image en Mouvement since 2012. Previously, he was co-director of Castello di Rivoli, director of the Artissima fair, curator at MoMA PS1 and editor in chief of Flash Art International magazine in New York. He has curated numerous solo exhibitions, including those of Marina Abramović, Hannah Black, Chuquimamani-Condori, Roberto Cuoghi, Chiara Fumai, Ernie Gehr, Giorgio Griffa, Sonia Kacem, John McCracken, Nicole Miller, Philippe Parreno, Thomas Schütte and Hannah Weinberger. He takes part in several commissions for the acquisition of works for public collections and also gives international lectures in various academic and artistic institutions.



Giovanni Carmine

Giovanni Carmine is director of the Kunsthalle Sankt Gallen since 2007, where he curated, amongst others, exhibitions by David Lamelas, Ryan Gander, Mariana Castillo Deball, Hassan Khan, Petrit Halilaj, Sylvia Sleigh, Dani Gal, Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Jill Magid, Andrea Büttner, Eric Baudelaire or the group exhibition The Darknet. In 2011 he was artistic coordinator of ILLUMInations, the 54th edition of the Venice Biennale and curator of the Swiss Pavilion in 2013. He contributed to various contemporary art publications and magazines. He was president of the Swiss Federal Art Commission (2017–2019) and is a member of the board of the Istituto Svizzero in Rome. He is curator of Art Basel Unlimited and currently lives and works between Zurich and St. Gallen.



Laurent Issaurat

Laurent Issaurat heads Societe Generale's Art Banking Services, which are designed to assist the bank's private clients in the field of Arts and Collectibles. He studied the History of Modern and Contemporary Art and Art World Practice at Christie's Education (Master's degree) as well as Art Business at the Sotheby's Institute of Art in London. He is also a graduate of the Institut d'Études Politiques of Paris and holds a master's degree in financial engineering, Sorbonne University, Paris. Alongside his professional role, Issaurat is involved in several cultural initiatives and projects and sits on the board of Fluxus Art Projects (London) and Fondation Thalie (Brussels).



Kabelo Malatsie

Kabelo Malatsie is an independent curator and director of the Kunsthalle Bern since April 2022. As an organizer she is preoccupied with the notion of autonomy, more specifically temporary autonomous zones within the African context. She was recently director of Visual Arts Network of South Africa (VANSA) (2018-2019) and she was an associate in the curatorial team at Stevenson gallery in Cape Town and Johannesburg (2011 – 2016). As an independent curator, she recently co-curated the exhibition *Deliberation on Discursive Justice* for the Yokohama Triennale (Japan 2020), participated to *In the Open or in Stealth* for Barcelona's MACBA (Spain 2018), and solo exhibitions across various institutions in South Africa for artists such as Nicholas Hlobo, Moshekwa Langa and Sabelo Mlangeni.



Bettina Steinbrügge

Bettina Steinbrügge is director of MUDAM - Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean in Luxembourg. From 2014 to 2022, she was the director of Kunstverein in Hamburg. She has directed Halle für Kunst Lüneburg, was curator at La Kunsthalle Mulhouse and senior curator and collection director at the Belvedere in Vienna. She has taught at Leuphana University Lüneburg and HEAD – Genève and she was also Professor of Art Theory at the Hochschule für Bildende Künste (HfbK) in Hamburg. From 2007 to 2017, she belonged to the program team of the Forum Expanded at the Berlin International Film Festival.

Images are available on the following link:
bit.ly/SEAP2022

For further information about the exhibition, please contact Priscilla Gonzalez:
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For more information about the [Swiss Emerging Artist Prize](#), please contact:
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