

LISTE 15

THE YOUNG ART FAIR IN BASEL

Press information

A Little History about the LISTE – The Young Art Fair in Basel

In the summer of 1995, the gallerists Eva Presenhuber and Peter Kilchmann contacted the exhibition organizer, Peter Bläuer, with a new idea – establishing a new fair in Basel for up-and-coming young galleries and young art. Peter Bläuer was excited about the idea and immediately took on the twin roles of organization and management. The idea was supported by, among others, Jean-Christoph Amman, Jacqueline Burckhardt, Bernhard Mendes Bürgi, Bice Curiger, Ulrich Look, Peter Pakesch and Theodora Vischer.

A New Fair for a New Generation of Art

The motivation for founding the fair came out of the realization that, at the end of the 80s, a new and self-assured generation of gallerists and artists was coming up that, unfortunately, had little opportunity to secure a place at one of the established art fairs. Moreover, the prohibitive costs required for those fairs made it virtually impossible for many of those galleries to exhibit internationally. The new fair took on the task of introducing young galleries that played a role in the zeitgeist and represented important young artists of the 90s. The LISTE did not see itself as an oppositional force or competitor, but rather as a complement, to Art Basel, and, as such, decided to hold its fair parallel to Art Basel.

In order to guarantee the fair a high level of artistic quality, an international selection committee of gallerists was put together, consisting of Emi Fontana (Milan), Maureen Paley, Interim Art (London), Anne de Villepoix (Paris), Tim Neuger, neugerriemschneider (Berlin), Peter Kilchmann (Zurich), Eva Presenhuber, Galerie Walcheturm (Zurich) as well as the manager of the fair, Peter Bläuer (Basel). The committee was, over the course of time, replaced by a jury comprised primarily of international curators who do not appear by name. Regarding where to hold the fair, the ideal venue was found at the Werkraum Warteck, which provided for a new, flexible and individual presentation of art. The spatial concept for the presentation of the galleries was designed by the Viennese artist, Gerwald Rockenschaub.

The Early Years

The LISTE 96 was a huge success. In total, some 8,000 guests, many more than were expected, visited the fair and its 36 galleries from 12 countries. The new forum for young galleries active on the international scene attracted much attention from experts, art fans and the media. The gallery exhibition was supplemented with a video program as well as lectures by Nicolaus Schafhausen (Frankfurt), Springer Hefte für Gegenwartskunst (Vienna), Nicolas Trembley, bureau des videos (Paris), and the curator, Hans-Ulrich Obrist (Paris). In the following year, the criteria for selection were made more rigorous and those galleries accepted were primarily ones which had been in existence for less than 5 years and whose program of art had already attracted some degree of international attention. At the same time, the collaboration with the main sponsor, E. Gutzwiller & Cie, Banquiers, Basel, began. The number of participating countries climbed to 16 and tours were offered for the first time.

An Established Name after Just Three Years

In the third year, individual presentations were introduced, an opportunity which 7 of the 36 galleries took advantage of, as well as the first special show, put on by the Centre genevois de gravure contemporaine, which introduced Swiss institutions that strongly promote young art. After only three years the LISTE's activities had created a distinctive and unique profile for itself, and the LISTE was able to claim the status of an established name alongside Art Basel. The performance artists at the vernissage for the LISTE 99, attracted a record number of guests – 3,000 – approximately twice as many as had attended the preceding year. The program presented Nao Bustamante (USA), Helmut Lemke (UK/Germany), Heinrich Lüber (Switzerland), Event Made in Éric/Klone (France) and Christoph Rütimann (Switzerland). A 1999 highlight came courtesy of the special show by the Migros Museum for Contemporary Art (Zurich), which ran a printing workshop entitled "what a mess". The artists Ceal Floyer, Urs Fischer, Bob and Roberta Smith, Nic Hess and Lori Hersberger produced prints at the show and afterwards presented them as souvenirs to the visitors. For the 5-year anniversary, the LISTE 2000 set a new tone with the internationally renowned theater group KLARA: the LISTE linked an art fair with the element of theater, a combination which brought about an exciting and provocative discussion. The special guest was FriArt, the art museum from the Swiss city of Fribourg.

Continuous Rejuvenation of Participants

For the LISTE 01, gallery turnover from the previous years was high because the policy of a gallery being permitted to exhibit only three to four times at the LISTE was carefully and consistently implemented. One result was that of the total of 43 exhibitors from 15 countries, 26 were making their LISTE debut. "plug in – kunst und neue medien" from Basel was invited as the guest for the special show that year. The special guest at the LISTE 02 was CAN – Centre d'art Neuchâtel; the invitation was a symbolic reference to the Swiss national exhibition, Expo 02. The fair manager, Peter Bläuer, noted with pleasure: "Every young gallery is jostling to get into the LISTE." This success can be attributed in no small way to the very strict and quality-oriented selection policy of the experts as well as the excellent reputation which the fair has come to enjoy. One-third of former LISTE-exhibitors have been accepted by Art Basel, which is a clear indication of the fair's quality. This was also evident in 2003, when half of the 47 exhibiting galleries were presenting artists who had also participated in the Biennale 2003 in Venice. The special guest was CACTicino, the Centro d'Arte Contemporanea Ticino from Bellinzona (Switzerland), which has focused on multi-media art since its inception in 1994.

15 years of LISTE- The Young Art Fair in Basel – a remarkable success story.

The LISTE - The Young Art Fair in Basel is proud to look back on 15 years of great success. What began in 1996 on the initiative of young gallerists has developed into one of the world's most important fairs for new galleries and young art. David Zwirner from New York, Massimo de Carlo of Milan, Maureen Paley of London, neugerriemschneider of Berlin, Emi Fontana of Milan and Andréhn Chiptjenko of Stockholm belong to those pioneer galleries who were there at the beginning - all of them who can be counted among the most well-established in the art market today.

Art prizes, special guests and the performance project

For the seventh time, the Nationale Swiss Insurance Company will be awarding its highly coveted art prize. This award is open to graduates of Swiss art colleges who have majored in "visual art and media art". This year's prize, which includes a monetary award of 15,000 CHF and a solo presentation at LISTE, goes to Elisa Larvego, a graduate of the Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design Geneva.

The new redtoo Art Prize is open to galleries making a first appearance at LISTE. An international expert jury will select the winning gallery from among the newcomer galleries. The prize includes payment of the gallery's stand costs and the purchase of a work of art. This art prize reinforces LISTE's status as a promotion fair. It is important to the IT-firm redtoo (Basel) to support and promote emerging galleries and their artists. With the purchase of works from the prize recipient, redtoo will begin to build its own art collection.

Every year a Swiss or Switzerland related institution organizes an exhibition at LISTE promoting emerging artists. The daily changing program of the performance projects offers the visitor a glimpse into the current international performance art scene.

The established galleries

Over the last few years, it can be noticed that LISTE-galleries have been able to make the leap to Statements or the Première of Art Basel for one or two appearances, but have been unable to secure a regular, reserved space at the fair. The LISTE is responding to this situation, and has adapted its admissions policy so that important former participants might have the opportunity to take part in the LISTE once again. In this way, the most exciting newcomer galleries can maintain their international art audience in Basel and can be then be seen either at our fair or at Art Basel.

Nevertheless, the LISTE always maintains its criteria of presenting and promoting primarily young artists under 40. In this way, galleries that are former participants and somewhat more established can present young and internationally lesser known art and artists. The LISTE is thus able to remain a discoverer fair that, year after year, succeeds in attracting the most important collectors and museum people from around the world.

Solid Values

Alongside the constant change that defines the basis for the LISTE's success, there are also permanent elements characterizing the fair. The Kaskadenkondensator has been a part of the LISTE since the fair's inception, as has the fair's venue, the Werkraum Warteck, which is led by artists and art historians and which concentrates on performance and contemporary art. The Warteck as a building has come to be, so to speak, the face the LISTE. Less well-known is the fact that the approximately 40 permanent tenants have to move out for the week of the fair. That some of them work for the fair during that week is one of the typically untypical facts that lend the LISTE its charm. In the end, the LISTE thrives on the tension between being an established fair offering non-established galleries and artists a platform that enjoys the confidence and trust of private and institutional collectors, international art experts and friends of the arts and being a fair which seeks to leave enough room for the new and experimental.

Galleries at the LISTE (New admissions according to year)

The LISTE 96

Air de Paris, Paris; Andreas Brändström, Stockholm; Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Stockholm; Arndt & Partner, Berlin; Barbara Weiss, Berlin; CRG, New York; Dan Bernier, Santa Monica; David Zwirner, New York; Eigen + Art, Berlin/Leipzig; Espacio Minimo, Murcia; Anne de Villepoix, Paris; Hammelehle + Ahrens, Stuttgart; Meile, Lucerne; Paul Andriesse, Amsterdam; Peter Kilchmann, Zurich; Sanguine, Paris; Walcheturm/Presenhuber, Zurich; Emi Fontana, Milan; Massimo de Carlo, Milan; Nicolai Wallner, Copenhagen; Jack Hanley, San Francisco; Jack Tilton, New York; Karsten Schubert, London; Klosterfelde, Berlin; Laure Genillard, London; Maureen Paley Interim Art, London; Morris - Healy, New York; Neu, Berlin; neugerriemschneider, Berlin; Paolo Vitolo, Milan; Raum aktueller Kunst, Vienna; Ridinghouse Editions, London; Robert Prime, London; Stephen Friedman, London; Guenzani, Milan; Zeno X, Antwerp.

New at LISTE 97

Ars Futura, Zurich; c/o-Atle Gerhardsen, Oslo; Cabinet, London; Mehdi Chouakri, Berlin; Ice Box, Athens; Casey Kaplan, New York; Tomio Kojama, Tokyo; Charlotte Lund, Stockholm; Emilio Navarro, Madrid; Francesca Pia, Berne; Météo, Paris; Mot & Van den Boogaard, Brussels; MXM, Prague; Praz-Delavallade, Paris; Slewe, Amsterdam; the agency, London; S.A.L.E.S, Rome; Fons Welters, Amsterdam; Anthony Wilkinson, London.

New at LISTE 98

Aidan, Moscow. Bochynek, Düsseldorf; Paula Böttcher, Berlin; Contemporary Fine Arts, Berlin; Chez Valentin, Paris; de Expeditie, Amsterdam; Annette De Keyser, Antwerp; Hales, London; Hoffmann & Senn, Wien; Kapinos, Berlin; Krobath Wimmer, Vienna; Lombard-Freid, New York. ; loop - raum für aktuelle kunst, Berlin; Meyer Riegger, Karlsruhe; Andrew Mummery, London; Michel Rein, Tours; Nils Staerk, Copenhagen; Nils Staerk, Copenhagen; Stalke, Copenhagen; The Box, Turin; Zé dos Bois, Lisbon.

New at LISTE 99

Spencer Brownstone, New York; chicago project room, Chicago; De Praktijk, Amsterdam; Flach, Stockholm; Glassbox, Paris; Magnus Karlsson, Stockholm; Modern Art, London; Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris; Sabine Schmidt, Köln; Schaper Sundberg, Stockholm; Cokkie Snoei, Rotterdam; Sommer, Tel-Aviv; The Modern Institute, Glasgow; Anton Weller, Paris; Enja Wonneberger, Kiel.

New at LISTE 2000

China Art Objects, Los Angeles; Foksal Foundation, Warsaw; Annet Gelink, Amsterdam; Leo Koenig, New York; Andrew Kreps, New York; Tommy Lund, Copenhagen; mezzanin, Wien; Franco Noero, Turin; Side2, Tokyo; Thumm, Berlin; Emily Tsingou, London; Walcheturm, Zurich.

New at LISTE 01

Catherine Bastide, Brussels; BQ, Köln; Casco, Utrecht; Enders, Frankfurt; Goldman Tevis, Los Angeles; Karin Guenther, Hamburg; Masataka Hayakawa, Tokyo; Kamm, Berlin; Francesca Kaufmann, Milan; Nicolas Krupp, Basel; Romain Larivière, Paris; Stella Lohaus, Antwerp; Low, Los Angeles; Laura Pecci, Milan; Hamish McKay, Wellington; Giti Nourbakhsh, Berlin; Nylon, London; Pinksummer, Genoa; Raucci/Santamaria, Naples; Sonia Rosso, Pordenone; Ten in One, New York; Susanne Vielmeffer, Los Angeles; Françoise Vigna, Nice; Vilma Gold, London; VTO, London.

New at LISTE 02

&:gb agency, Paris; asprey jacques, London; Drantmann Brussels; Frehrking Wiesehöfer, Cologne; Doggerfisher, Edinburgh; Edward Mitterrand, Geneva; Jousse Entreprise, Paris; Kodama, Osaka; kurimanzutto, Mexico; offspace, Vienna; Sies + Höke, Düsseldorf; Skuc, Ljubljana; Diana Stigter, Amsterdam; The approach, London; Zero, Piacenza.

New at LISTE 03

404 Arte Contemporanea, Naples; Alimentation Générale, Luxemburg; ALP/Peter Bergman, Stockholm; Ausstellungsraum 25, Zurich; Cohan Leslie and Brown, New York; Ellen de Bruijne, Amsterdam; Vera Gliem, Cologne; Michael Hall, Vienna; IBID Project, Vilnius; Johann König, Berlin; maccarone, New York; Maison-neuve, Paris; Maze, Turin; moniquemeloche, Chicago; Mobil Home, London; SMART, Amsterdam; Team, New York; Unlimited Contemporary Art, Athens; Christina Wilson, Copenhagen

New at LISTE 04

John Connelly, New York; Evergreene, Geneva; Fotogalleriet, Oslo; Galerist, Istanbul; Corentin Hamel, Paris; Daniel Hug, Los Angeles; Iris Kadel, Karlsruhe; Judin Belot, Zurich; Tracey Lawrence, Vancouver; Kate MacGarry, London; Peres projects, Los Angeles; Raster, Warsaw; T293, Naples; Daniel Reich, New York; Upstream, Amsterdam; Jan Winkelmann, Berlin

New at LISTE 05

Counter, London; João Ferreira, Cape Town; Fonti, Neapel; Natalia Goldin, Stockholm; Herald St, London; Hotel, London; kunstbuero, Vienna; Michael Lett, Auckland; Mogadishni, Kopenhagen; Reena Spaulings, New York; Tal Esther, Tel Aviv; The Breeder, Athens; Jan Wentrup, Berlin; Jocelyn Wolff, Paris; Hiromi Yoshii, Tokyo

New at LISTE 06

Isabella Bortolozzi, Berlin; Broadway 1602, New York; Cortex Athletico, Bordeaux; Cosmic, Paris; dépendance, Brussels; Zach Feuer (LFL), New York; Foxy Production, New York; Freymond-Guth & Co./Les Complices, Zurich; Groeflin Maag, Basel; Anna Helwing, Los Angeles; Hollybush Gardens, London; Juliette Jongma, Amsterdam; Kirkhoff, Copenhagen; Linn Lühn, Cologne; Monitor, Rome; mother's tankstation, Dublin; NoguerasBlanchard, Barcelona; Sorcha Dallas, Glasgow; Sutton Lane, London; Taxter & Spengemann, New York; Van Horn, Dusseldorf; Jonathan Viner/Fortescue Avenue, London; Vitamin Creative Space, Guangzhou; Martin van Zomeren/ gmzv, Amsterdam

New at LISTE 07

Art Concept, Paris; Laura Bartlett, London; Dicksmith, London; Elastic, Malmö; Andreas Huber, Vienna; hunt kastner, Prague; David Kordansky, Los Angeles; Laurin, Zurich; lokal_30, Warsaw; Magical Artroom, Tokio; Mary Mary, Glasgow; Micky Schubert, Berlin; Myto, Mexico; Neue Alte Brücke, Frankfurt; Plan B, Cluj; Schleicher + Lange, Paris; Wallspace, New York; Yamamoto Gendai, Tokio; Zinger, Amsterdam

New at LISTE 08

Ancient & Modern, London; Sandra Bürgel, Berlin; Elizabeth Dee, New York; Klerx, Milan; Layr Wuestenhagen, Vienna; Francesca Minini, Milan; Overduin and Kite, Los Angeles; ProjecteSD, Barcelona; Proyectos Monclova, Mexico; Rodeo, Istanbul; schnittraum/lutz becker, Cologne; Traschi, Santiago de Chile

New at LISTE 09

Office Baroque, Antwerp; A Gential Carioca, Rio de Janeiro; Circus, Berlin; Croy Nielsen, Berlin; Tanya Leighton, Berlin; Sommer & Kohl, Berlin; Lucile Corty, Paris; Loraini Alimantiri Gazonrouge, Athen, Wilfried Lentz, Rotterdam; Tulips & Roses, Vilnius; Lautom, Oslo; Andreiana Mihail, Bukarest; BolteLang, Zurich; Kisterem, Budapest; Dispatch, New York; James Fuentes, New York; Harris Liebermann, New York

New at LISTE 15

Elisa Platteau, Bruxelles; Platform China, Beijing; Carlos Cardenas, Paris; Gaudel de Stampa, Paris; Chert, Berlin, Lüttgenmeijer, Berlin, Supportico Lopez, Berlin; Limoncello; London, Fluxia; Milan, Labor, Mexico D.F.; Johan Berggren, Malmö; Karma International, Zurich, Altman Siegel San Francisco.