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Closing report
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Basel, 19 June 2022

Liste Art Fair Basel's 26th edition exceeded all expectations

After a fantastic start at the preview and a successful fair week – both for the galleries and visiting professionals – this year's Liste Art Fair Basel came to an end at 4 pm on Sunday, 19 June 2022. The fair impressed collectors, artists, curators, media experts and art lovers with its range of young contemporary art of the highest level. With their high-quality selection of new and promising artworks, as well as their special stand presentations, the 82 participating galleries from 37 countries recorded excellent sales and established new relationships with museums and collections.

With more than 25,000 visitors from all over the world, Liste set a record for visitor numbers in its 27-year history. After two years of the pandemic, a special highlight this year was the return to normalcy, characterised by an electrified atmosphere and a great enthusiasm for discovery.

This year's location, Hall 1.1 of Messe Basel, was defined for the second time by OFFICE Kersten Geers David van Severen i.c.w. Richard Venlet's unique fair architecture. The interconnected circular format represents the idea of community – a core characteristic of Liste since its founding.

Liste was also distinguished by the high number of 60 solo presentations this year. The large proportion of young and yet-unknown positions once again confirmed Liste's reputation as the international fair for making new discoveries in contemporary art.

A special concern this year was to give space to the artistic community of and stand in solidarity with Ukraine. Liste is grateful that the diverse projects presented at the fair, initiated together with our galleries and invited curators, were perceived with great interest and stimulated action and reflection. In addition to inviting two Ukrainian galleries, The Naked Room and Voloshyn, to present their artists, the three Eastern European galleries LC Queisser, Sandwich and Suprainfinit expanded their fair presentations with Ukrainian artists. The film programme "The Sky Is Getting Closer", which featured works by Ukrainian artists and was curated by Martha Kirszenbaum, Oleksandra Pogrebnyak and Daria Shevtsova, also received special attention.

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Voices of the participating galleries:

Joana Roda from Bombon Projects (Barcelona):

Liste has provided us with a great opportunity and environment to both establish an international community/friendship of galleries with whom we feel very connected and to promote our artists outside our country with an audience that is very receptive to new discourses and ways of doing things.

Lizaveta German and Maria Lanko from The Naked Room (Kyiv):

The invitation to participate at Liste came at the very right moment for us: when we decided to temporarily relocate our programme outside of our Kyiv space to be able to work and support our community in times of the Russia-Ukraine war. We were thrilled to receive a lot of important feedback from the industry's professionals and witness collectors' interest for our three amazing artists. It was also exciting to discover many great names at other booths, and meet fellow gallerists and curators.

Haynes Riley from Good Weather (North Little Rock, Chicago):

The collaborative spirit of Liste is, as always, very palpable. As it is an art fair: For Good Weather, sales at the fair have been solid. But beyond this barometer, I believe we have also made quality connections and had good conversations at the booth about Inga Danysz's work and practice that will lead to future opportunities. Liste has always attracted a lot of visitors who are thoughtful and engaged with the work presented in our booth, and this year was no exception. We are grateful there is a renewed focus on careful collecting and relationship building – among colleagues, collectors and institutions – that continues to build a strong community around our gallery and our artists.

CLC Gallery Venture (Beijing):

Our first time at Liste was a fantastic experience. We met a number of collectors and art professionals and made great new friends along the way.