

Swiss Art Awards 2021
20–26 September 2021
Messe Basel, Hall 3

EN



Swiss Art Awards
20–26 September 2021
Messe Basel, Hall 3

An exhibition by the
Federal Office of
Culture

Award Ceremony:
20 September 2021,
4 pm

swissartawards.ch
#swissartawards
#prixmeretoppenheim

Daten

Press preview

20 September 2021, 9–11.30 am
Messe Basel, Hall 3
Upon registration to
media-kunst@schweizerkulturpreise.ch

Award Ceremony

20 September 2021, 4 pm
Congress Center, Messe Basel
By invitation only

Exhibition

Swiss Art Awards 2021
20–26 September 2021
Messe Basel, Hall 3

Opening hours

Monday: 12 am–9 pm
Tuesday: 10 am–7 pm
Wednesday–Saturday: 10 am–8 pm
Sunday: 10 am–6 pm
Free admission

Guided tours

Tuesday to Sunday, 3.30–4.30 pm

Informationen

swissartawards.ch
@swissartawards

Information about the participants of the Swiss Art Awards and of the Swiss Grand Award for Art/Prix Meret Oppenheim, the exhibition and the programme are available at www.swissartawards.ch.

High-resolution images of the exhibited works as well as portraits of the winners of the Swiss Art Awards and the Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim are available to download at (images of the award ceremony will be available from September 21, 10 am): www.bak.admin.ch/SAA2021

Further information about the Swiss art, architecture and critique/edition/exhibition competition are available at www.bak.admin.ch.

Programme

Performance programme
and opening day of the
20 September 2021

Jana Vanecek
*Life is Surplus Value [patented, traded
and accumulated]*
7pm

Sarina Scheidegger
Collaborating Waters
7.30pm

L'Acte pur
8pm

Weekly programme

Sarina Scheidegger (performance)
Collaborating Waters
Tuesday to Sunday, 4.30pm

L'Acte pur (concert)
Tuesday, 6.30pm

L'Acte pur (concert)
Wednesday-Saturday, 7.30pm

Jana Vanecek (performance)
*Life is Surplus Value [patented, traded
and accumulated]*
Thursday, 11am

Cahiers d'Artistes with Roman Gysin and Sandra
Knecht Moderation by Josiane Imhasly, Pro Helvetia
(German)
Thursday, 3-4pm

Giona Bierens de Haan, Weyell Zipse
*Architecture Paradigm Change in the Emergency of
Global Warming: Present and Future Theories Practic-
es and Educational Methods*
Moderation by Isabel Concheiro, TRANSFER Global
Architecture Platform With trans ETH, l'Atelier EPFL
and OSA Mendrisio (English)
Friday, 11–12.30am

Cahiers d'Artistes with Dorota Gawęda & Eglė Kulbo-
kaitė, Marie Matusz and Elena Montesinos
Moderation by Denis Pernet, curator Audemars Piguet
Contemporary (English)
Friday, 3–4pm

SAA X S AM presents DIXIT
Cosa Mentale in conversation with BRUTHER & Lau-
rent Stalder, Marina Otero Verzier & Yony Santos, Jan
Kinsbergen & David Klemmer et Raphael Kadid &
Thomas Paturet (English)
Friday, 5.30–7pm

MacIver-Ek Chevroulet, Céline Baumann,
Solanelas Van Noten Meister
Exhibiting and Writing on Architecture Today
Moderation by Andreas Kofler (S AM Swiss
Architecture Museum)
With trans ETH, l'Atelier EPFL and OSA Mendrisio
(English)
Saturday, 11–12.30am

Panel *Anthropomorphe Form Finissage*
Finissage Podium with Edelaar Mosayebi Inderbitzin
Architekten Moderation by Fredi Fischli and Nils Ols-
en, gta Ausstellungen
(German)
Sunday, 11–12am

Jana Vanecek (performance)
*Life is Surplus Value [patented, traded
and accumulated]*
Sunday, 1pm

L'Acte pur (concert)
Sunday, 3pm

Public tours

Tuesday to Sunday, 3.30–4.30pm

Catering

Daily, from 21 September
10–11.30am free coffee and croissants
All day: cold and hot beverages, brownies and
sandwiches from the Café Finkmüller

Publications

Take Away booklet

At the opening, a free booklet will be published,
showing the works of the participants of the second
round present in the exhibition.

Edition: 1,500 copies.

Catalogue

In November 2021, all the documentation on the exhi-
bition will be published. In addition to the works shown,
the catalogue will also feature the jury statements on
the award winners and further texts on the Swiss Art
Award. Published by the Federal Office of Culture.

Edition: 10,000 copies. Shipping with Swiss magazine
Kunstbulletin 12/2021.

Pre-order at swissart@bak.admin.ch

Swiss Art Awards 2021

Team

Federal Office of Culture
Project Lead: Léa Fluck
Project team: Sabine Leuthold, Clara Chavan

Exhibition coordination:
Paolo Baggi

Architecture:
Conen Sigl Architekten avec Paul Grieguszies

Technique:
Urs Baumgartner, Sabrina Giger, Daniel Ramsauer

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Info desk:
Claire Schneemann

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Atlas Studio, Zurich

Catalogue editorial:
Clara Chavan

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Information on the award
winners and the
Swiss Art Awards

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Covid 19 rules

Please note that due to the epidemiological situation we have to carry out an admission control. You will need to present the following documents: valid Covid certificate (info), QR code via app and your identity card or passport. To simplify the process, we recommend that you use the free "Covid Certificate App".

Swiss Art Awards 2021

The Swiss Art Awards 2021 will be given in Basel on 20 September 2021 in the presence of Yves Fischer, Deputy Director of the Federal Office of Culture. For this year's edition of the awards (launched in 1899), the Federal Office of Culture will honour eight artists, a duo of architects and two positions from the field of Critique, publishing, exhibition on the basis of recommendations by the Federal Art Commission and invited experts.

The three laureates of the Swiss Grand Prix for Art/Prix Meret Oppenheim 2021 will also be honoured. This year's winners are architect and landscape architect Georges Descombes, curator Esther Eppstein and artist Vivian Suter. The speeches honouring the laureates will be given by Sissi Zöbeli (co-founder of the Zurich-based brand Thema Selektion) for Vivian Suter; the Swiss artist Noah Merzbacher for Esther Eppstein; and Elissa Rosenberg (landscape architect and professor at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem) for Georges Descombes. The award ceremony is on invitation only.

Exhibition

Works by the winners, as well as participants selected for the second round of the Swiss Art Competition, will be presented at the Swiss Art Awards 2021 exhibition, taking place parallel to Art Basel. For the twenty fifth year, the Swiss Art Awards exhibition has been a key part of Basel's cultural programme together with the art fairs in June (this year in September due to the Covid pandemic). Presented by the Swiss Federal Office of Culture, the exhibition not only enables a broad public to see contemporary Swiss art, architecture and critic, publishing, exhibition projects in a single location, but also gives local cultural creators the chance to encounter an international audience of specialists.

Competition

The Swiss Art Competition is open to artists, architects, curators, and critics who are who are Swiss citizens or who live in Switzerland. The jury is formed by the Federal Art Commission with the support of five experts. The competition has two rounds. In the first round, applicants submit a portfolio to the jury. Selected applicants are invited to a second round where they display their work as part of the public Swiss Art Awards exhibition. In the art category, the selected applicants are awarded a grant of 5,000 Swiss francs by the Federal Office of Culture. In the categories architecture and critique, publishing, exhibition, the Federal

Office of Culture grants 1,500 Swiss francs to the selected applicants. This year, 55 participants were selected from a total of 320 submissions. The jury named 8 winners, each of whom receives a prize of 25,000 Swiss francs. In the category critique, publishing, exhibition, the winning projects are awarded each with a prize of 25,000 Swiss francs and an additional budget of 5,000 Swiss francs for the realization of their project for the following year. In the category architecture, the authors of the winning project are awarded with a prize of 25,000 Swiss francs and an additional budget of 25,000 Swiss francs for the realization of the architectural project for the following year.

Federal Art Commission and experts

The members of the Federal Art Commission, chaired by Raffael Dörig, are Laura Arici, Victoria Easton, Julie Enckell Julliard and Anne-Julie Raccoursier. The invited experts are Luca Frei (since 2021), Lucie Kolb (since 2020), Uriel Orlow (since 2019) and Una Szeemann (since 2020), and for the field of architecture: Jeannette Kuo (since 2020) and Tanya Zein (since 2019).

Exhibition architecture

For the exhibition architecture of the Swiss Art Awards, the Federal Office of Culture has once again collaborated with Zurich-based architecture office Conen Sigl Architekten. The presentation, developed specifically for the site, responds to the needs of the exhibits, installations and performances during the weeklong exhibition. Creating specific atmospheres for spaces through precise interventions at all scales, the office is also responsible for the new entrance of the Swiss Art Awards; a large billboard next to the entrance to Hall 3, the "Supersign", guides the visitors.

Graphic Design Concept

Atlas Studio is responsible for the graphic design of the Swiss Art Awards from 2018 to 2021. The studio was founded in 2011 by Martin Anderegg, Claudio Gasser and Jonas Wandeler. In addition to their studio work, its members teach at the art academies in Zurich (ZHdK), Lucerne (HSLU) and Lausanne (ECAL). Atlas Studio's work was awarded the Swiss Design Prize in 2014. In 2017, it was awarded the prize The Most Beautiful Swiss Books and the Bronze Medal in the competition The Most Beautiful Books in the World with the book "Autonomy on A4"

Swiss Art Awards 2021 Laureates

Art

Marie Bette

*1988 in Paris (FR), works
in Geneva and Paris (FR)

“Marie invites us to venture inside her installation. The sculptures thus form a kind of inward-facing circle, putting us simultaneously in the position of observers and observed, absorbing us in an interplay of ambivalence. The shapes are made up of precisely chosen materials and tones, from pistachio-coloured, ruffled velvet, cold metal and white silk to the knotted baculum of a bull calf. These endow the objects with a force that wavers between seduction and repulsion, between the body and its absence, and invite viewers to follow the narrative of a rite whose rules are unknown, positioning them at the centre of a magnetic interaction of the mysterious.

Marie Bette’s sculptures cause something in and around them to resonate, highlighting the complex relationship between form and imagination.”



Armure, 2020
Sous-armure, 2021
Broigne, 2021
Toison, 2021
Roll II, 2021

Maëlle Gross

*1988 in Eden-Roch,
works in Geneva
and Lausanne

“Maëlle Gross’s video work is a feminist speculation based on an associative concatenation of quotations. An erudite narrator guides us from the topic of the mother to the mushroom at the end of the world, and to a fluid goddess Diana whose voguing can be read as a combat manoeuvre, with fingernails as weapons and looks that can kill. Like science fiction, dreaming is a tactic used here to make narratives modellable, in the sense of both nocturnal dreaming as poetic engine, and dreaming of another world. The jury were impressed by Maëlle Gross’s meticulous, original staging, her concern with topical issues, and the way in which the text fragments productively contaminate each other.”



Mutter nail, 2021

Swiss Art Awards 2021 Laureates

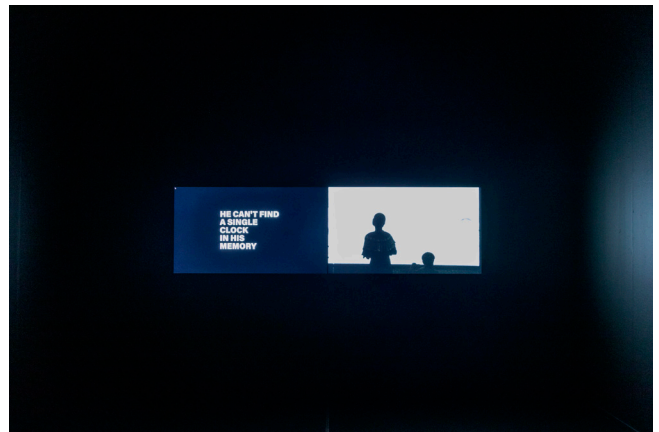
Art

Pauline Julier

in Geneva, works
in Geneva

"The video work *Cercate Ortensia* is an oration on disappearance, loss and disaster, but also an ode to resistance and freedom. In a powerfully evocative montage, Pauline Julier uses material from archives both personal and borrowed to construct a layered, critical reflection on our fields of perception and relationship with the environment.

Cercate Ortensia is shot through with the precariousness and disruption brought about by the pandemic situation. In this tale, spatial and temporal disorientation, breath, air, fire and embers become philosophical tools for multiplying perspectives. Pauline Julier envelops us in a narrative whose lyricism and tone shift as they come into contact with the elements surrounding them, like the hydrangeas."



Cercate Ortensia #2, 2021

L'Acte pur
Andreas Hochuli,
Tristan Lavoyer

*1982, *1986, work in
Geneva and Lausanne

"Serving as a base for the artists who will stage their concerts outside the confines of the Swiss Art Awards site, L'Acte pur's space is both installation and promotional venue, part camp site and part sales stand for a local product at a regional fair. That hybrid character resonates in L'Acte pur, a music duo who use basic equipment for their performances: two microphones, two speakers and a mixer as well as two televisions playing a karaoke show, with the various song lyrics displayed on kitsch backgrounds in a range of cheesy fonts. The flawed aesthetic matches the way the songs are performed, with a mixture of skill and incompetence: the kind of "de-skilling" that is typical of karaoke. The outdated styles underscore the move into a new world where word processing is no longer the sole preserve of IT programs but is subject to various readings and rewritings by artificial intelligence. That destabilisation of textual integrity reflects shared fears of a loss of identity in a con-

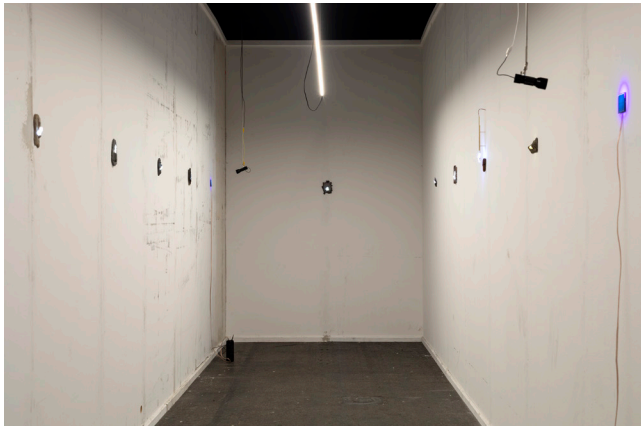


La banquette des passions, 2021

temporary context where the concept of masculinity is being renegotiated."

Swiss Art Awards 2021 Laureates

Art



Hunter Longe

*1985 in Oakland (US),
works in Geneva

"Belemnite fossils, magnetite sand, selenite, gypsum cement, sandstone, Libyan desert glass, pigments, graphite, solar cells, LEDs and squid ink are just some of the materials Hunter Longe brings together in his exquisitely crafted wall objects. Mounted on two facing rows of what appears to be a dingy corridor, the installation hauntingly evokes the figure of the 19th-century amateur fossil collector, palaeontologist and artist Elizabeth Philpot, who discovered that belemnite fossils still contained ink sacs, and that the fossilised ink could be revived with water. Make no mistake: the work is no nostalgia trip to the past, but rather a paean to geological time and space whose subtle messages of death and survival have become all the more urgent in our present era of the Anthropocene."

Offrande Météoritique I Elizabeth Philpot XI (The dark liquid spoke forth from the stone squid)
Elizabeth Philpot X Elizabeth Philpot XIV
Relic of an Evaporated Sea V Relic of an Evaporated Sea II Relic of an Evaporated Sea IV Relic of an Evaporated Sea III Omen (Temple of the Sun)
Offrande Météoritique II Relic of an Evaporated Sea VI Relic of an Evaporated Sea VII
Relic of an Evaporated Sea IIX (Sampled)
Elizabeth Philpot XII Tides (Temple of the Moon)
Elizabeth Philpot XIII (Death Initiation Birth), 2021

Marie Matusz

in Toulouse (FR),
works in Basel

"The installation *Singular service* has a captivating elegance, formal clarity and pictorial presence: this is image in the sense of idea and real pictoriality. Is this service singular because it is the only one or because it is a one-off? A sophisticated mirroring of the individual elements opens up new avenues of thought. The gleaming steel of the autopsy tables meets the opaque glass of the rectangular cuboid reminiscent of a sarcophagus, in which we can make out a face with three eyes, two noses and one mouth. The surface of one table reflects the underside of the other. A black plastic chair offers a mise en abyme response to the table construction. The abandoned ping-pong bats point us towards the chair and thus the absence of human beings. And yet a human being is present,



Singular service, 2021

as the observer's reflection in the gleaming surfaces. *Et in Arcadia ego*: even in Arcadia I am here; or death is in Arcadia too."

Swiss Art Awards 2021 Laureates

Art



Madame l'Ambassadeur, 2020
Im Kunsthaus Zürich, 2021
Zeichnerische Protokolle von Zürcher Leben
und "The Spirit of Competition"
(Swiss Art Awards Ausstellung Aufbau), 2018–2020

Maria Pomiansky

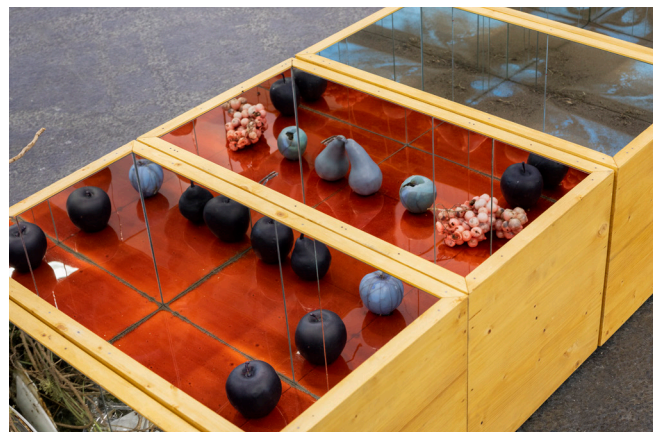
*1971 in Moscow (RU),
works in Zurich

"Observing and capturing, looking and drawing: Maria Pomiansky observes the everyday life around her with astonished curiosity and captures small moments in drawings. She is interested in people and recounts their activities, maintaining the same distance or proximity to her motif at all times. In anthropology, this is known as participant observation: the idea is to avoid intervening in the goings-on whenever possible, but instead to record them and collect artefacts. She committed her artist colleagues to paper while the Swiss Art Awards exhibition was being installed, and will continue observing and capturing while it is on. The process is threefold: assimilation of the world, storytelling through chronological recording and, above all, thinking in pictures. Thus we, as observers, view the art world through her eyes."

Paulo Wirz

*1990 in Pindamonhangaba
(BR), works in Zurich
and Geneva

"In his sculptural work, Paulo Wirz creates "alternative spaces" whose evocative power derives from the use of symbolic materials or objects. The twelve wooden modules placed on the ground operate as elements of a story within a story, in which allusions to death are blended with allusions to the countryside or to ritual. We are therefore invited to gaze into the deep blue of what might be an empty swimming pool before moving on to the décor of a Jesuit church or poking our noses into the dust. In what looks like a collection of miniature reliquaries, fruits, wax, mirrors, branches and ashes appear as symbols of vanitas, expressed by the artist in minimal forms. Combining the vocabulary of Donald Judd with that of Spanish Baroque, Paulo Wirz offers us a profound reflection on the passage of time. He creates a composition that is at once open, poetic and precise: the ideal form for a project he has been working on for some years."



Oracle Venimeux, 2021

Swiss Art Awards 2021 Laureates

Architecture

MacIver-Ek Chevroulet founded in 2019,
in Neuchâtel

maciverekchevroulet.ch

“MacIver-Ek Chevroulet’s conceptual strategy is about more than just intervention in the built environment: it reads the hall as an integral part of the city and of a constantly changing neighbourhood within an institution that is questioning itself. The outcome is an opportunity to redefine access to the hall: the project creates a second entrance on the street behind, at the periphery of the trade fair site while at the heart of the district. Taking advantage of an existing doorway, a new porch plays with conventions and creates unexpected situations. The minimal intervention opens up new possibilities while exploiting the raw material of architecture: human beings and their movements within the public space.”



Deliberate Leak, 2021

Swiss Art Awards 2021 Laureates

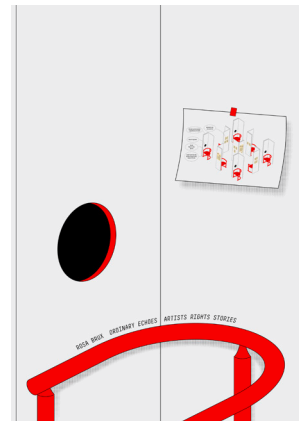
Critique, publishing, exhibition

Rosa Brux

*founded in 2012
in Geneva

rosabrux.org

“With *Ordinary Echoes*, Rosa Brux creates a space in which artists can tell of everyday work and copyright problems and, in so doing, focus attention on working conditions in the art world. The project follows on from legal advice sessions conducted in 2018 in the Forde exhibition space in collaboration with Lab-of-Arts that have subsequently been continued in the Bureau des Compagnies. Based on interviews, correspondence and lawyers’ notes, reports are compiled that are re-played at audio stations. The stories aim to encourage artists to share their own experiences and pursue their institutional critique at other venues. The jury was impressed by Rosa Brux’s practice of cultural policy activism that successfully conveys the social struggles of artists within the exhibition context.”



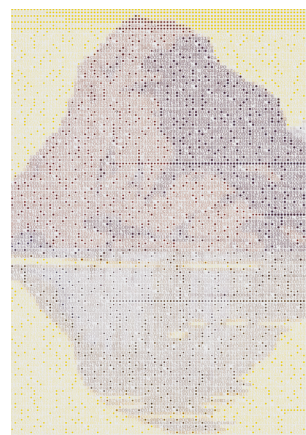
Ordinary Echoes, 2021

Sonnenstube

*founded in 2013
in Lugano

diesonnenstube.ch

“The principle of hospitality is at the heart of the residency project presented by the itinerant collective Sonnenstube. Issuing an invitation to all the participants in the Swiss Art Awards 2022, *Souvenir Souvenir* is a chance to spend a short time in Italian-speaking Switzerland, in close contact with the local cultural scene and the region: an opportunity to discover new, transdisciplinary, intergenerational and multilingual ways of living together and try out new forms of dialogue and exchange for the future. The experiences that emerge from this intense, extended and unpredictable series of residencies will be gathered together and shared, either physically or virtually, during the Swiss Art Awards 2022, via NADA, the caravan that serves as a mobile base for Sonnenstube.”



Souvenir Souvenir, 2021

Swiss Art Awards 2021

Participantes et participants

Art (45)

L'Acte pur Andreas Hochuli & Tristan Lavoyer (*1982, *1986, work in Geneva and Lausanne) • Camille Aleña (*1986, works between Switzerland and England) • Mitchell Anderson (*1985, works in Zurich) • Marie Bette (*1988, works in Geneva and Paris (FR)) • Pascale Birchler (*1982, works in Zurich) • Beni Bischof (*1976, works in St-Gall and Widnau) • Francesco Cagnin (*1988, works in Zurich) • Timothée Calame (*1991, works between Marseille (FR) and Geneva) • Nicolas Cilins (*1985, works in Geneva) • Andriu Deplazes (*1993, works in Marseille (FR) and Zurich) • Gritli Faulhaber (*1990, works in Zurich) • Louisa Gagliardi (*1989, works in Zurich) • Mathis Gasser & Angharad Williams (*1984 works in Berlin (DE), *1984, works in London (UK)) • Dorota Gawęda & Eglė Kulbokaitė (*1986, *1987, work in Basel) • Maëlle Gross (*1988, works in Geneva and Lausanne) • Laurent Güdel (*1984, works in Biel/Bienne) • Nadia Hauri (*1989, works in Zurich) • Pauline Julier (*1981, works in Genève) • Dominique Koch (*1983, works in Basel and Paris (FR)) • Margot Lançon & Chloé Simonin (*1989, works in Paris (FR), *1994, works in Geneva) • Miriam Laura Leonardi (*1985, works in Zurich) • Hunter Longe (*1985, works in Geneva) • Lucia Martinez Garcia (*1994, works in Geneva and Paris (FR)) • Marie Matusz (*1994, works in Basel) • Rhona Mühlebach (*1990, works in Glasgow (UK) and Dettighofen) • Nico Krebs & Taiyo Onorato (*1979, work in Zurich) • Ceylan Öztrük (*1984, works in Zurich) • Valentina Pini (*1982, works in Zurich) • Maria Pomiansky (*1971, works in Zurich) • PRICE (*1986, works in Zurich) • Real Madrid (*2015, works between Geneva and Berlin (DE)) • Jessica Russ (*1988, works in Lausanne) • Kilian Rüthemann (*1979, works in Basel) • Sarina Scheidegger (*1985, works in Basel) • Rita Siegfried (*1964, works in Bern) • Elza Sile (*1989, works in Zurich) • Rudolf Steiner (*1964, works in Biel/Bienne, Rondchâtel and Varsaw (PL)) • Inka ter Haar (*1980, works in Basel) • Jana Vanecek (*1975, works in Zurich) • Caroline Ventura (*1994, works between Lausanne and Paris (FR)) • Jan Vorisek (*1987, works in Zurich) • Manon Wertenbroek (*1991, works in Paris (FR)) • Latefa Wiersch (*1982, works in Zurich) • Paulo Wirz (*1990, works in Zurich and Geneva) • Eva Zornio (*1987, works in Geneva)

Architecture (5)

Céline Baumann (*1984, works in Basel) • Giona Bierens de Haan (*1987, works in Geneva) • MacIver-Ek Chevroulet (founded in 2018 in Neuchâtel) • Solanellas Van Noten Meister (founded in 2018 in Zurich) • Weyel-Il Zipse (founded in 2015 in Basel)

Critique, publishing, exhibition (5)

Éditions Cosa Mentale (founded in 2009 in Paris (FR)) • Lokal-int (founded in 2006 in Biel/Bienne) • Rosa Brux (founded in 2012 in Geneva) • Sonnenstube (founded in 2013 in Lugano) • TRANSFER Global Architecture Platform (founded in 2016 in Zurich)

Kiefer Hablitzel Göhner (17)

James Bantone (*1992, works Zurich and Geneva) • Jacopo Belloni (*1992, works in Geneva) • Elise Corpataux (*1994, works in Basel) • Nina Emge (*1995, works in Zurich) • Giulia Essyad (*1992, works in Geneva) • Samuel Haitz (*1997, works in Berlin (DE)) • Deborah Joyce Holman (*1991, works in Basel and London (UK)) • Monika Kazi (*1991, works in Geneva) • Milena Langer (*1997, works in Zurich and Berlin (DE)) • Henrique Loja (*1992, works in Geneva) • Diogo Pinto (*1993, works in Basel) • Gina Proenza (*1994, works in Lausanne and Geneva) • Jessy Razafiman-dimby (*1995, works in Geneva) • Cassidy Toner (*1992, works in Basel) • Anouk Tschanz (*1994, works in Zurich and Berlin (DE)) • Remy Ugarte Vallejos (*1993, works in Geneva) • Gaia Vincensini (*1992, works in Paris (FR))

Awarded architecture project Swiss Art Awards 2019

Edelaar Mosayebi Inderbitzin Architekten: *Anthropomorphe Form*

The installation *Anthropomorphe Form* at the Swiss Art Awards 2021 exhibition fills the entire exhibition hall with its fabric canopy: it is a room-sized work that transforms the hall into a new architectural space reminiscent of the temporary structures of marquees. That impression is instantly confounded, however, by the fabric's continually changing form.

The translucent fabric is suspended in five axes on thin ropes, each of which is moved by one of 42 motors. The motors are controlled by an algorithm that processes various parameters of human and atmospheric activity: the noise level, the number and distribution of the visitors, the speed of their movements, and so on.

The fabric canopy thus becomes an actual organ of the visitors present, almost imperceptibly creating constantly changing spaces as a backdrop for the exhibition: sometimes monumental, sometimes intimate; sometimes architectural, then organic once again. The fabric forms an archaic tented roof or shrouds those present in a mimetic cloud.

The work thus tackles the influence of human beings on the environment within which we move and the traditionally permanent form of architecture, in a subtle commentary on the Anthropocene epoch.

Edelaar Mosayebi Inderbitzin Architekten realised the project in collaboration with Fabian Bircher. The project manager was Lukas Burkhart.



Anthropomorphe Form, 2021

Swiss Art Awards 2021

The jury consists of six members of the Federal Art Commission, selected by the Federal Assembly, as well as six invited experts. In the first round, the members of the Federal Art Commission and the experts examine the submitted portfolios and agree upon a selection for the second round. In the second round, the artworks are judged and the awards are decided upon. The jury is also responsible for nominating the winners of the Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim. In addition, it consults the Swiss Confederation on purchases and percent for art.

Federal Art Commission

Raffael Dörig (*1976 in St. Gallen) has been director of the Kunsthhaus Langenthal since 2012. Raised in Appenzell, he studied art history, communication sciences and German at the University of Basel. From 2005 to 2011 he worked at the Medienkunstforum [plug.in] and the Haus für elektronische Künste (HeK) in Basel. He was co-founder and director of Shift, the electronic arts festival (2007-2011). He regularly teaches at art schools and works as a freelance writer and curator. From 2013 to 2015, Dörig was on the jury of the Swiss Art Awards as an external expert for electronic arts. He has been president of the Federal Art Commission since 2020.

Laura Arici (*1955 in Solothurn) lives and works in Zurich, where she lectured on theory for the Bachelor in Art and Media and Master of Fine Arts in the Department of Art and Media at Zurich University of the Arts from 2005 to 2021. Laura Arici spent a number of years working for the culture section of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung, writing for various art magazines and catalogues and teaching at institutions including the University of Zurich and the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. She has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2017.

Victoria Easton (*1981 in Lausanne) lives in Zurich and Milan. She studied architecture at EPF Lausanne and ETH Zurich; After graduation, she began working for the architec-

ture office Christ & Gantenbein in Basel, where she has been an associate since 2012. She also undertakes research at ETH Zurich and has published several books e.g. the two volumes "Typology" (Park Books 2012/2015). Moreover, she writes for architecture books and magazines (San Rocco, Cartha), is a curator (Istituto Svizzero Milano), and she holds conferences on a regular basis, among others at the Berlage Institute, at the EPF Lausanne, at the IIT Chicago as well as at the Politecnico of Milan. She has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2017.

Julie Enckell Julliard

(*1974 in Lausanne) is responsible for the cultural development of the Haute école d'art et de design (HEAD) in Geneva. She studied in Lausanne, Rome and Paris. In 2001, she received her postgraduate diploma in Critical Curatorial Cybermedia (CCC) at HEAD in Geneva and in 2004 and she completed her PhD on Italian Art in the Middle Ages. From 2007 to 2012, she was the curator for modern and contemporary art at the Musée Jenisch in Vevey and became its director from 2013 to 2017. She also worked as art advisor for the Collection Nestlé. For the last ten years, Julie Enckell Julliard has researched the medium of drawing and presented her results in the form of publications and exhibitions. She has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2014.

Anne-Julie Raccoursier

(*1974 in Lausanne) studied at the Ecole supérieure d'art visuel in Geneva and the California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles. She has exhibited widely, including at Château de Gruyères (2016), Kunsthhaus Langenthal and Palais de Tokyo, Paris (both 2011) and participated in group exhibitions at Forum Schlossplatz, Aarau (2014), Kunstmuseum Bern (2013), Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne (2013) and Kunsthhaus Zurich (2009). She gives lectures for the CCC — Research-Based Master Programme — Critical Curatorial Cybermedia at the Haute école d'art et de design (HEAD) in Geneva. She has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2015.

San Keller (*1971 in Bern) lives and works in Zurich since 1995. In addition to his work as a conceptual and critical performance artist, he co-directs the BA Art & Mediation programme at HSLU with Sebastian Utzni, where he also teaches. Together with Sibylle Omlin, he is the artistic director of the BONE Performance Festival, has been president of the Stromereien festival since 2015, and is also the singer of Forever Blue – a band he belongs to alongside

Tom Huber. He has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2020.

Experts

Five experts advise the Federal Art Commission for the Swiss Art Awards. The architecture experts also advise the Federal Art Commission in this category for the Swiss Grand Award for Art/Prix Meret Oppenheim.

Visual art

Luca Frei (*1976 in Lugano) lives and works in Malmö, Sweden. His interdisciplinary practice includes installation and performance, as well as curation and graphic design. He has had solo and group exhibitions at the Kunsthhaus Glarus, Bonner Kunstverein, Malmö Konsthall, National Museum of Modern Art in Kyoto, Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven, Centre Pompidou in Paris, Bildmuseet in Umeå and Moderna Museet in Stockholm, among others. His works have been exhibited at what was then the Museo Cantonale d'Arte in Lugano, as well as the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin, Tate Liverpool, the Drawing Room in London, M HKA in Antwerp, the CentroCentro in Madrid, and the Azkuna Zentroa in Bilbao. He has also participated in several biennials, including the international Biennial of Graphic Arts in Ljubljana, the Cairo Biennale, Prague Biennale and Istanbul Biennial. He has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2021.

Lucie Kolb (*1985 in Bern) is an artist, author and editor of the magazine Brand-New-Life. She is currently writing a theoretical novel about the latest critical art institutions at the Institute for Experimental Design and Media Cultures at the University of Applied Sciences in Basel. In addition, she coordinates the exhibition and collection project Wir publizieren at the Bern University of the Arts, which focuses on independent magazine formats in the context of events, seminars and an exhibition at the Kunsthalle Bern. As an editor, she recently published "Artwork as Institution.

Uriel Orlow

Stephen Willats" (BNL, 2019) and "Fandom" (BNL, 2018), and as an author. "Study, not Critique" (transversal texts, 2018). She teaches in the Bachelor of Visual Arts at the ZHdK. She has been an expert for the Federal Art Commission since 2020.

(*1973 in Zurich) lives and works in London and Lisbon. He got personal exhibitions (2018) in St-Gall, Johannesburg, Durban, Paris or Bath. The work of Orlow was presented in museums, movie's festivals and international reviews, most recently in Manifesta 12, Palerm (2018), the 7th Biennale of Moscow (2017), the EVA Biennale in Limerick (2016). He publishes two monographies (2018): "Theatrum Botanicum" (Sternberg Press) and "Soil Affinities" (Shelter Press). Uriel Orlow teaches in Master of Fine Arts of Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (Art academy of Zurich) and is an art researcher at the university of Westminster, London and guest teacher in Royal College of Art, London. He has been an expert of the Federal Art Commission since 2019.

Una Szeemann

(*1975 in Locarno) lives in Zurich. She has been working as an artist since 1998, after completing her theatre studies in Milan. She has participated in solo and group exhibitions at Kunsthalle Winterthur, MASI Lugano, Kunstverein Hamburg, Belvedere 21 Vienna, Nam June Paik Art Center Seoul, Kunstmuseum Luzern, Fundació Joan Miró Barcelona, Contemporary Art Center Vilnius and Kunsthalle Vienna, among others. She has also exhibited at Manifesta 11, the 5th Busan Biennale in South Korea, the 3rd Contour Biennale in Belgium, the 9th Lyon Biennale and the 52nd Venice Biennale. She was a guest lecturer at the Master of Fine Arts programme of the HEAD in Geneva from 2016 to 2018, and regularly gives lectures and seminars at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK), as well as lectures at the Facoltà di Filosofia of the Università Cattolica Milano, at the Akademie der Künste in Munich and at

the Akademie der bildenden Künste in Vienna. Since 2020 she has been an expert for the Federal Art Commission.

Architecture

Jeannette Kuo (*1978 in Indonesia) is co-founder, with Ünal Karamuk, of Karamuk Kuo Architects in Zurich. She has been a professor of design at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design since 2016. She received her B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley and her M.A. from Harvard University. From 2006 to 2009, she was a lecturer at various American universities, including MIT, and from 2011 to 2014 at EPF Lausanne as a visiting professor. Her research on the interrelations between space, structure and culture has appeared in two well-known publications: 'A-Typical Plan' (2013) and 'Space of Production' (2015). Karamuk Kuo's buildings and projects span different scales and typologies. Recent constructions include the Centre of Excellence for Sports Science at the University of Lausanne and the Weiden Secondary School in Rapperswil-Jona. Current projects include an archaeological collection centre for the Roman city of Augusta Raurica, an extension to the Rice University School of Architecture and residential buildings. Jeannette Kuo has been an expert with the Federal Art Commission since 2020.

Tanya Zein (*1972 in Beirut) lives and works in Geneva. She graduated in architecture from EPFL in Lausanne in 1996 and gained her initial professional experience working for architecture firms in Lisbon, London, Beirut and Geneva. She was a business partner of Sylvie Pfaehler and Jeanne Della Casa for almost a decade; together, they founded L-architectes in Lausanne. They realized a number of residential projects as well as day nurseries and child-care facilities. Tanya Zein worked with Jean-Paul Jaccaud in London for several years, completing a number of projects. In 2016, after returning to Switzerland, she set up FAZ architectes in Geneva together with Véronique Favre. The duo work mainly on public projects of varying scope. Tanya Zein is a regular member of juries judging competitions and assessing projects at architecture schools. She has been a member of the Federation of Swiss Architects since 2010 and a Board member since 2015. She has been a Federal Art Commission expert since 2019.



Jury Swiss Art Awards 2021

Jeannette Kuo • Tanya Zein • San Keller • Laura Arici • Julie Enckell Julliard • Raffael Dörig • Lucie Kolb
• Uriel Orlow • Anne-Julie Raccoursier • Victoria Easton • Luca Frei • Una Szeemann

History of the prizes

Swiss Art Awards and Swiss Grand Award for Art/Prix Meret Oppenheim

1896	Hans Auer, member of the Federal Art Commission suggested that “there should be a fixed sum for travel and study grants for artists who have already proved their aptitude and maturity.” He substantiated his proposal by adding that “the average standard of Swiss art in general is undeniably behind that of other countries, which for centuries have enjoyed a systematic cultivation of art.”	1889	Exhibition at Kongresshaus Montreux, Kunstmuseum Luzern
		1990	Exhibition at Kunsthaus Zug
		1991	Exhibition at Kunstmuseum Solothurn
		1992	Exhibition at Kunstmuseum St. Gallen
		1993	Exhibition at CentrePasquArt, Biel
1899	First federal art grant awarded to Swiss artists	Since 1994	Exhibition featuring second round participants takes place during Art Basel
1901	Marie-Rosa Langenegger is the first woman to receive an art grant	2014	Introduction of the production budget of 5,000 CHF for the participants of the category Art and Architecture, reduction of awards from 20 to 10–12 awards
1944	First public exhibition of works by the grant holders at the Kunstmuseum Bern	1/11/2018	New regulations for Architecture and Critique, Publishing, Exhibition
1945–62	Exhibition featuring works by the participants at the Kunsthalle Bern	2019	Curators and architects in the second round present for the first time a concrete criticism, publishing or curating concept and an architectural intervention. The respective award-winning project will be launched in the following year at the Swiss Art Awards. The concepts and implementations of the winning projects will be financially supported.
1963	First official and public preview in the Kunsthalle Bern		
1967	Exhibition at Messe Basel (cf. founding year of Art Basel: 1970)		
1970–71	Exhibition at Helmhaus Zürich		
1972–78	Exhibition at Expo Beaulieu and Mudac Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Lausanne	2020	For the first time in the history of the Swiss Art Awards, the pandemic causes the exhibition in its usual form to be cancelled; instead, it becomes a three-month, decentralised event in a mixture of analogue and digital formats. In addition, the prize money is shared out among all the finalists in the second round of the competition.
1979	Due to the increasing number of applicants (1978: 700), a two-round system is introduced. From now on, only second round participants are exhibited		
1979–80	Exhibition at Artecasa, Lugano		
1981–83	Exhibition at Kongresshaus Montreux		
1984	Exhibition at Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau		
1985	Exhibition at Artecasa, Lugano		
1986	Exhibition at Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau		
1987–88	Exhibition at Kongresshaus Montreux		

Former award winners Swiss Art Awards (selection)

Art

John Armleder 1977, 1978, 1979
Silvia Bächli 1982, 1984, 2003
Alexandra Bachzetsis 2011, 2016
Marc Bauer 2001, 2005, 2006
Olaf Breuning 1998, 1999, 2000
Christoph Büchel 1993, 1997, 1998
Stefan Burger 2008, 2009
Balthasar Burkhard 1983, 1984
Valentin Carron 2000, 2001
Claudia Comte 2014
Philippe Decrauzat 2004
Helmut Federle 1969, 1972, 1981
Urs Fischer 1993, 1994
Fischli/Weiss 1982, 1985
Sylvie Fleury 1992, 1993, 1994
Franz Gertsch 1971
Fabrice Gygi 1996, 1997, 1998
Sophie Jung 2016, 2019
Teresa Hubbard/Alexander Birchler 1997, 1999
Zilla Leutenegger 2005
Urs Lüthi 1972, 1973, 1974
Lutz & Guggisberg 1999, 2001, 2002
Manon 1980
Fabian Marti 2010
Christian Marclay 1988
!Mediengruppe Bitnik, 2008, 2014
Marianne Mueller 2003, 2013
Olivier Mosset 2001
Aldo Mozzini 2012, 2019
Shahryar Nashat 2001, 2002, 2003
Yves Netzhammer 2000, 2002, 2006
Uriel Orlow 2008, 2009, 2012
Mai-Thu Perret 2004, 2006
Elodie Pong 2006
Markus Raetz 1963, 1965
Delphine Reist 2008
Pipilotti Rist 1991, 1993
Ugo Rondinone 1991, 1994, 1995
Pamela Rosenkranz 2008, 2010
Adrian Schiess 1981, 1985, 1988
Shirana Shahbazi 2004, 2005
Roman Signer, 1972, 1974, 1977
Niele Toroni 1964, 1966
Andro Wekua 2003

Architecture

Michael Alder 1966
Leopold Banchini 2013
Nicholas Brennan 2012
Daniel Buchner 2003
Valentin Bearth & Andreas Deplazes 1992
Ueli Brauen & Doris Wälchli 1993
Gion A. Caminada 1996
François Charbonnet 2006
Pierre De Meuron & Jacques Herzog 1978
Heinrich Degelo & Meinrad Morger 1992
Dieter Deitz & Urs Egg 1995
Max Dudler 1985
Franz Füegg 1954, 1957
Ernst Giseler 1950, 1951
Fabio Gramazio 2004
Christian Kerez 1999
Paola Maranta und Quintus Miller 1997
Daniel Niggli 2004
Valerio Olgiati 1994, 1995
Philippe Rahm 2003
Fabio Reinhart 1969
Joseph Smolenicky 2000
Doris Wälchli & Ueli Brauen 1993, 1994
Bernard & Maria Zurbuchen-Henz 1992

Critique, publishing, exhibition

since 1991

Véronique Bacchetta 2003
Daniel Baumann 1997, 2006
Alexandra Blättler 2011
Peter Bläuer 1991
Lionel Bovier 1995
Giovanni Carmine 2001
Christophe Cherix 1998
Bice Curiger 1995
Esther Eppstein 2003, 2006
Fanni Fetzer 2009
Gianni Jetzer 2005
Christiane Rekade 2012
Michel Ritter 1996
Madeleine Schuppli 2001
Fabrice Stroun 2005
Nicolas Trembley 2004, 2005
Christina Vegh-Gronert 2010
Marc-Olivier Wahler 2000, 2004

