



# Swiss Art Awards 2015

## Exhibition

16 – 21 June 2015  
Messe Basel, Hall 4

## Opening hours

Daily 10 am – 7 pm. Free entry

## Program Swiss Art Awards 2015

### Monday, 15 June

5.30 – 7 pm: Swiss Art Awards and Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim 2015 award ceremony, in the presence of Alain Berset (Federal Assembly) and the Director of the Federal Office of Culture, Isabelle Chassot – by invitation only  
7 – 10 pm: Opening  
From 10 pm: Party in the Volkshaus Basel

### Thursday, 18 June

Performances and Readings  
3 – 5 pm: Guillaume Pilet, *la mesure harmonique*  
5 – 5.30 pm: Martina-Sofie Wildberger (Kiefer Hablitzel Award), *RE-* with Sébastien Hoffmann, Lysann König und Steven Schoch  
5.30 – 6 pm: Garrett Nelson lecture-performance, *Lacking a Body of Work, a reading on characters, bodies of work, poetry and boredom.*  
6 pm – 6.30 pm: Petra Köhle / Nicolas Vermot performance and discussion with screening, *It depends entirely upon the hue of the lighting*, 2015

### Daily (Thursday, 16 June – Sunday, 21 June)

10 – 11.30 am: Free breakfast  
11 am and 4 pm: Guided tours *Does Switzerland make the better Art?* – Swiss Art Awards 2015 in view of arts funding  
Meeting point LVPH-Architects bench in Swiss Art Awards exhibition

## Information

### Journal

Information about the participants, the exhibition and the program will be published on the blog accompanying the exhibition: [www.swissartawards.ch](http://www.swissartawards.ch)

### Mobile App

The mobile app offers insight into the portfolios of the exhibiting participants, information about the Swiss Art Awards supporting program and the exhibition map – especially for on site use with complimentary WIFI. [www.swissartawards.ch/mobile](http://www.swissartawards.ch/mobile)

Further information about the Swiss Art Awards:  
[www.bak.admin.ch](http://www.bak.admin.ch)

## Catalogue *Swiss Art Awards 2015*

Works by the Swiss Art Award winners will be presented in a catalogue released by the Federal Office of Culture to be published in autumn 2015.

### *Swiss Grand Award for Art / Meret Oppenheim Award 2015* publication

A publication with portraits and interviews to accompany this year's Swiss Grand Award for Art / Meret Oppenheim Award 2015 by the Federal Office of Culture will be released on the occasion of the opening of the Swiss Art Awards exhibition.

**Information about the award winners and the Swiss Art Awards 2015 exhibition:**  
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### Media relations

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### Press images

High resolution images of the exhibited works as well as of the award winners of the Swiss Art Awards and the Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim can be obtained under the following link:  
<http://www.bak.admin.ch/SAA2015>

High resolution images of the award ceremony are available from midday on 16 June.

### Team

*Federal Office of Culture:* Léa Fluck, Manuela Schlumpf  
*Technical:* Urs Baumgartner, Sabrina Giger, Roger Klausen, Daniel Wernli • *Info desk:* Annina Beck, Valentina Pusterla • *Architecture:* Vécsey Schmidt Architekten, Basel • *Art Direction & Design:* Gregor Huber & Ivan Sterzinger, Zurich • *Web-Design:* Manuel Goller, Berlin • *Mobile App:* Gael Hugo, Paris

### Journal editorial office

BUREAU N – Julia Albani, Karim Crippa, Stefanie Lockwood, with contributions from the Department of Art History at the Universität Zürich and the program for Art History at the Universität Fribourg as part of the course, *Tour de Suisse. Art and art institutions in Switzerland.*

# Swiss Art Awards 2015

The Swiss Art Awards 2015 will be presented on 15 June in Basel in the presence of Alain Berset (Federal Assembly) and the Director of the Federal Office of Culture, Isabelle Chassot. Based upon the recommendation of the Federal Art Commission, the Federal Office of Culture honours nine artists, one architectural office and one curator. The winners of the Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim 2015 will also be honoured. This year's awards go to the artists Christoph Büchel and Olivier Mosset, the curator Urs Stahel and the architect duo Staufer/Hasler. Works by the award winners, together with those by the second round participants of the Swiss Art Awards, will be presented in the exhibition *Swiss Art Awards 2015*, which takes place parallel to Art Basel.

Participation in the Swiss Art Awards is open to artists, architects and curators/critics of Swiss nationality or residents in Switzerland. The Federal Art Commission forms the jury. The competition takes place in two rounds. In the first round the participants present a dossier to the commission. The selected applicants are invited to the second round, where they present their work in the context of the *Swiss Arts Awards* exhibition. 11 award winners are then chosen and each receives 25,000 CHF prize money. Instead of the prize money, there is the option for one winner to choose a 6-month residency in Mexico City in spring 2016. Thus, the Federal Office of Culture opens a new perspective for Swiss artists within the framework of the Swiss Art Awards on the 70th anniversary since the beginning of diplomatic relations between Mexico and Switzerland.

The members of the Federal Art Commission, chaired by Nadia Schneider Willen, are Giovanni Carmine, Julie Enckell Julliard, Anne-Julie Raccoursier, Andreas Reuter, Anselm Ignaz Stalder and Noah Stolz.

This year's advisory experts are Mireille Adam Bonnet (architecture), Raffael Dörig (digital art), Latifa Echakhch (visual art), Gabriela Mazza (architecture) and Julika Rudelius (visual art).

For the last two years, the *Swiss Art Awards* exhibition has been an inherent part of the cultural program in Basel during the art fairs in June. Organised by the Federal Office of Culture, it not only enables a broad public the chance to see contemporary Swiss art and architecture projects at one location, it also offers regional artistic practice a platform in front of an international audience.

For the third time, the exhibition architecture has been especially created for the location. The Basel-based Vécsey Schmidt Architects were assigned to design the space, in order to offer an optimal setting for the second round participants of the Swiss Art Awards.

Over the next three years, the two graphic designers Gregor Huber and Ivan Sterzinger from Zürich will be responsible for the art direction of the Swiss Art Awards. Their concept follows three thematically focused steps: marketing (2015), migration (2016) and promotion (2017). This year, the design concept and the communication campaign begin with the question of rhetoric, marketing and self-promotion in the arts.

In an initial step, the graphic designers have analysed the communication methods of 25 international art museums and art fairs and filtered out the adjectives most used and listed them according to their frequency. These were then compared with the adjectives used as part of the artists' portfolios submitted for the Swiss Art Awards. The *Swiss Art Awards 2015* publication appearing at the end of the year will elaborate on this research work and include essays by different authors on the subject.

# The Swiss Art Awards 2015 go to the following recipients:

## Art



### **Mathis Altmann (1987, lives and works in Zurich)**

Mathis Altmann presents three sculptures as three microcosms, in which the current, world economical questions are concentrated. By means of recycled structures – shower or sink drains – he creates puppet houses without adornment, in which childhood dreams have given way to a subterranean, alarming emptiness. On an exterior section of the work a billboard promises investment and profit. Elsewhere the devil can be found under a red light, like the moraliser of our instincts. Matthias Altmann plays with variations of scale, the visible and the unseen and the richness of poverty, and in doing so he invents the archeologically remains of a ruined society.



### **Gilles Aubry (1973, lives and works in Berlin)**

Based on the recordings of traditional Moroccan music made by Paul Bowles in 1959, Gilles Aubry has carried out comprehensive research since 2013 in collaboration with musicians and numerous interviewees to ascertain the reception of these recordings in today's Morocco, with a particular focus upon the contemporary discourse on cultural heritage. He presents a sound installation with elements of his research in addition to a film projection without images. The work addresses *political invisibility* by showing parallels between the character of Paul Bowles as an *invisible witness*, the veil as a strategy of resistance against colonialism by local female singers and the myth of the *Pythagorean veil*, appropriated by the fathers of *Musique concrète* in France in the 1950s.



**Andreas Dobler (1963, lives and works in Zurich)**

*Futurismo FFS* is a typical example of Andreas Dobler's work. He is one of the few artists that possess the ability to combine themes and genres in the most surprising manner. The paintings presented in the exhibition depict a world that oscillates between science fiction, artistic meta-levels and popular symbolism. It is the ability to stir these elements with a good dose of irony and masterful technique that both fascinate and move us. Andreas Dobler represents a unique position in the Swiss creative scene and can forge bridges between generations and artistic scenes that may appear irreconcilable.



**Gilles Furtwängler (1982, lives and works in Lausanne)**

Gilles Furtwängler continues his exploration of language in the form of sculpture, sound and also visually with works that are equally large and form three parts of a whole. The works are directly attached to the walls, referencing large format, tattered posters, whereby the letters are written in glue before being covered with ashes, turmeric and black tea. By carefully using household items the artist allows the words and the rhythm of the sentences to ring out and plays with the variation in the size of the letters and their arrangement on the wall. Furtwängler harks back to folk art by utilising the passing of time and overused words and invents a visual slam, at once mixed and globalized.



**Julia Geröcs (1978, lives and works in Zurich)**

Julia Geröcs addresses hidden and widely tabooed emotions in her performances and here presents a video work entitled *Das Exchange Programm* (2015). In four short episodes, four women recall a journey they took in as part of a cultural exchange at the end of a university semester. They talk about their encounters with Buddhist monks as well as their own behaviour in light of the cultural differences. The work succeeds in creating an intelligent and precise interplay between text, the actor's stylised sequence of movements and the interaction with textile props. Above all, the sharpness and quality of the texts impressed, perfectly highlighting the theme of institutionalised, intercultural encounters from four subjective perspectives.



**Tobias Kaspar (1984, lives and works in Rome)**

In the installation *THE STREET (Chinatown)* Tobias Kaspar combines apparently heterogeneous elements such as canvas made of hi-tech textiles, an architectural relic from a film set, and cocktail stirrers, which stick in the wall like arrows. For the viewer who takes the time to read all the signs, the objects develop (even if not explicitly recognisable) a complex discourse on the existing relationships between pop culture and consumerism, between fashion and art, between cinematic illusion and sculpture. Thus Tobias Kaspar emerges as a critical, yet impartial observer of contemporary reality and the art world, in which he is also a part of.



**Mélodie Mousset (1981, lives and works in Los Angeles and Lausanne)**

For several years, Mousset has lead an anatomical investigation of her body. With the aid of medical imaging, she has explored her own body and recreated its organs. As replicas or facsimiles the organs become protagonists of a vast artistic corpus. Through the mise en abyme of her body, Mousset detaches from the autobiographical sphere. In a humorous and aesthetic way, she addresses contemporary issues of biotechnology and data kidnapping. The virtual world that can be physically experienced as a video game allows one to enter the body of the artist, blurring boundaries of the intra- and extracorporeal. *The Skin Disposal* makes the skin an object of convenience. The gold of the organs hanger dignifies this display. These three self-portraits have convinced the jury by the mastery of space and materials: silicon, concrete, bronze.



**Jessica Pooch (1982, lives and works in Berlin and Zurich)**

Jessica Pooch investigates the behaviour of the body and architectural space in her work. For her impressively detailed installation *Your Structure Is My Skin* (2015) she utilises standardised modules found in sanitary engineering and creates an unusual spatial structure with a very recognisable material that releases a strong, physical sensation upon entry. We find ourselves in a room that, in daily life, serves to guarantee the least amount of intimacy and are confronted by a subdivided yet open setting where sharp defensive spikes on the walls threaten us – an impressive work that questions how we behave in spatial structures in daily life and how we interact with objects in a space.



**Yves Scherer (1987, lives and works in New York and Berlin)**

Yves Scherer impressed with his spatially applied painting. Unusual, yet precisely installed in the space, *Mermaid Lagoon* surrounds us like a wild fantasy from a teenage bedroom. His panoramic image investigates the fascination of star cults by letting current protagonists such as Emma Watson or Kirsten Stewart appear as fictional characters, taking on various rolls from their films. He cleverly translates a media and pop culture phenomenon into the medium of painting and plays with opposites of analogue and digital, inside and outside, private and public.

# The Swiss Art Awards 2015 go to the following recipients:

## Architecture



### **Conen Sigl Architekten (Maria Conen, 1979, and Raoul Sigl, 1978, live and work in Zurich)**

Conen Sigl Architekten address architecture's fundamental elements in their installation: ceiling, floor, wall and column. The successful combination of these elements creates a space full of atmosphere, in which the black areas seem to oscillate between corner and column like an optical illusion. The central support made of untreated wood accentuates the middle and is simultaneously connected with the dark ceiling through the black coat of paint. Square openings in the ceiling offer a view into the hall and skilfully incorporate the surroundings. The four, fundamental elements thus go beyond their historical function and interweave with each other in an interesting manner to form a rich and diverse installation. The architects create a surprising sense of space by subtly playing with presence and absence. The installation is enhanced with detailed plans, in which the meaning of these elements is examined and presented in individual projects.

## Criticism Edition Exhibition



### **Nadine Wietlisbach (1982, lives and works in Lucerne)**

By honouring Nadine Wietlisbach the jury recognises a dedicated curator and publicist who has played an important role in the art scene in central Switzerland for some time. With energy, commitment and perseverance she has directed the independent project space *sic! Raum für Kunst* in Lucerne since 2007. *Sic!* offers national and international artists the opportunity to realise new projects and expands on the exhibitions by releasing the experimental publication *Lack-Lack*. In Lucerne, as well as in Stans where she has also been active as curator at the Nidwaldner Museum since 2012, she offers regional artists an interesting platform and enthusiastically provides the public with new positions.

# Statement by Federal Councillor Alain Berset Head of the Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA

Embargo: 15 June 2015, 5:30 pm

Art can be traded, but it cannot be fully commercialised. Something resists, despite the aesthetics. Thankfully. Because we need art in order to understand ourselves. Art questions. Media, politics, economics: they just answer. Or they already know. Or they believe to know.

The more uncertain the times, the more important the questions. The more confusing the relationships become, the greater the need to self-question. And the times are uncertain. Geopolitical crisis, economic upheaval.

Unease can only be overcome when the causes are understood, otherwise it paralyses our society. Otherwise a nostalgic cult will take the upper hand, which is already expanding in numerous locations. And it is remarkable immune when confronted by the fact that the golden age being evoked never existed.

Karl Valentin caricatured this attitude as follows: "back in those days even the future was better".

We need art to call things into question, so that we recognise: Who we are. What connects us. What moves us.



# Swiss Art Awards 2015

## In figures

For this year's edition of the awards (initiated in 1899), the Federal Art Commission selected 46 projects from 390 submissions (from 441 individuals) by both Swiss-born and Swiss-based artists as well as 4 architect projects and 11 curatorial projects. The average age of the participants is 35 – the youngest participant and winner was born in 1987 (Yves Scherer, artist), the oldest participant and winner in 1963 (Andreas Dobler, artist). The average age of both the award participants and winners is 35.

37% of the exhibitors are female and 63% are male. In the field of art 35% of the participants were female and 65% were male, in architecture 17% female and 83% male, curators/critics were split 50 % female and 50% male. The 42% of the award winners are female and 58% are male.

The language regions are represented amongst this year's participants as follows:

Art – DE : 61 %, FR : 35%, IT : 4%  
Architecture – DE : 83%, FR : 17%  
Criticism, edition, exhibition – DE : 70%, FR : 30%  
Total – DE : 70%, FR : 29%, IT : 1%.

The split amongst the award winners is:  
DE : 75% and FR : 25%

## 2nd Round Participants Swiss Art Awards

### Art (46)

Mathis Altmann (Zurich), Gilles Aubry (Berlin), Baltensperger + Siepert (Zurich), Pauline Beaudemont (Geneva), Mark Boulos (Geneva), Bianca Brunner (Zurich, London), Ceel Mogami de Haas (Geneva), Chloé Delarue (Geneva), Andreas Dobler (Zurich), Othmar Farré (Basel), Karim Forlin (Geneva), Christopher Füllemann (Zürich), Gilles Furtwängler (Lausanne), Julia Geröcs (Zurich), Jérémie Gindre (Geneva), Simon Haenni (Geneva), Patrick Hari (Zurich), Tarik Hayward (Lausanne), Anne Hildbrand (Lausanne), Matthias Huber (Basel), Karin Hueber (Zurich), Thomas Julier (Zurich, Brig), Tobias Kaspar (Rome), Georg Keller (Zurich), Köhle / Vermot Petit-Outhenin (Zurich), Doris Lasch (Basel), Maude Léonard-Contant (Lucerne), Tobias Madison (Zurich), Michael Meier & Christoph Franz (Zurich), Jon Merz (Basel, Berlin), Mélodie Mousset (Lausanne, Los Angeles), Garrett Nelson (Basel), Sophie Nys (Zurich), Guillaume Pilet (Lausanne), Jessica Pooch (Zurich), Christian Ratti (Zurich), Rico & Michael (Zurich), Kilian Rüthemann (Basel), Vanessa Safavi (Villars-sur-Glâne, Berlin), Yves Scherer (New York, Berlin), Sabine Schlatter (Zurich), Kerstin Schroedinger (Zurich), Una Szeemann / Bohdan Stehlik (Lugano), Lena Maria Thüning (Zurich), UBERMORGEN (Vienna, St. Moritz), Pedro Wirz (São Paulo)

### Architecture (4)

bernath+widmer (Zurich), CIRIACIDISLEHNERER Architects (Zurich), Conen Sigl Architekten (Zurich), LVPH Architects / Paul Humbert (Fribourg)

### Criticism, edition, exhibition (11)

Madeleine Amsler und Marie-Eve Knoerle (Geneva), bblackboxx (Basel), Camenzind (Zurich), Chri Frautschi, lokal-int (Biel/Bienne), Jeanne Graff (Jouxten), Samuel Gross (Geneva), Elise Lammer (Berlin), Schwarzwaldallee (Basel), Izet Sheshivari - Boabooks (Geneva), Benjamin Sommerhalder - Nieves Zines (Zurich), Nadine Wietlisbach (Lucerne)

# Swiss Grand Award for Art / Meret Oppenheim Award

The Federal Office of Culture (FOC) honours five outstanding Swiss cultural practitioners with this year's Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim: the artists Christoph Büchel and Oliver Mosset, the curator Urs Stahel and the architect duo Staufer/Hasler. They will be honoured together with the winners of the Swiss Art Awards on 15 June 2015.

The Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim was initiated in 2001 to honour artistic and architectural creativity. It distinguishes artists, architects, curators and researchers whose methods and approaches have exerted a lasting influence on our perception and have significantly enriched our encounters with art and architecture. The Award winners' legacy has stimulated cultural dialogue in Switzerland and beyond and challenged the norms and forms of art in order to meet the challenges of our time. The 40,000 Swiss Francs prize money is awarded by the Federal Office of Culture based on the recommendation of the Federal Art Commission.

For the first time, the Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim will be awarded parallel to Art Basel, before the opening of the *Swiss Art Awards 2015* exhibition. Film portraits of the five Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim winners can be seen in the exhibition.

## Christoph Büchel

Christoph Büchel (1966, Basel) is one of Switzerland's leading contemporary artists. He is internationally known for his conceptual projects and complex large-scale installations. Büchel often draws on current events and politics where he reappropriates mass media sources and everyday life situations. Büchel's obsessively precise representations of reality seem to be more real than reality itself, often the world that he has created is fully functioning and visitors forget that they are in an art institution but are physically projected into other contexts that make up the contemporary world. These lifelike installations are often meticulous constructions that mirror the inner workings and hierarchies of advanced capitalist societies, contexts that we pretend not to see or consciously choose to ignore. Büchel has been selected to represent Iceland at this year's 56th International Art Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia.

## Olivier Mosset

Olivier Mosset (1944, Bern) is one of Switzerland's most influential artists. In the 1960s, he was a member of the artist group BMPT, which questioned notions of authorship and originality. Later, in New York, he created monochrome paintings and was a founding member of the New York Radical Painting Group. Mosset had already influenced the work of a younger generation of artists, both in Switzerland and beyond its borders, by the time he took part in the Swiss pavilion at the Venice Biennale in 1990. With his monochrome and geometrical paintings, Mosset works in the tradition that explores painting's very essence and constantly redefines it. Curator Bob Nickas described Mosset's work as *images ... of painting itself*.

## Urs Stahel

As co-founder of the unique, international institution for photography, the Fotomuseum Winterthur, Urs Stahel (1953, Zürich) reached a milestone. Stahel has created an internationally important location for photography in cooperation with the publisher Walter Keller and the benefactor George Reinhart, and he has successfully managed it for the last 20 years. In 2013, he stepped down for his position as director and has since been active as curator – projects include the platform Paris Photo (November 2014), the new institution MAST in Bologna and the Fotofestival Mannheim Ludwigshafen Heidelberg (September 2015) – author, consultant and lecturer (ZHdK Zürich, Universität Zürich).

## Staufer/Hasler

The architect duo Astrid Staufer (1963, Lausanne) and Thomas Hasler (1957, Uzwil) are well-known for their high quality, solid construction projects. Their work is influenced by its surroundings and incorporates the immediate vicinity. The duo has worked together for 20 years. Some of their most well known buildings include the Canton School in Wil, the Federal Administrative Court in St. Gallen, the Brandhaus in Zürich-Opfikon, as well as diverse schools, offices, cinemas, bars and private homes. Staufer/Hasler lecture at the ETH Zürich and the ETH Lausanne; they currently hold a professorship at the TU Vienna. Both carry out research and regularly publish articles on themes concerning architecture, construction and urban planning.

## Publication

On the occasion of the award ceremony on 15 June 2015, the Federal Office of Culture is to release the publication *Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim 2015* with portraits and interviews of the winners. Lionel Bovier and Christophe Cherix interview Olivier Mosset, Martin Jaeggi interviews Urs Stahel and Beat Schläpfer interviews Staufer/Hasler. Christoph Büchel has created an artistic contribution to the publication.

Editorial: Manuela Schlumpf.

Design: Marietta Eugster.

Photography: Mathilde Agius.

Details: 72 pages.

ISBN: 978-3-9524209-9-7

The publication is printed in three languages (German, English and French) and can be obtained free of charge in the exhibition or ordered by email: [swissart@bak.admin.ch](mailto:swissart@bak.admin.ch)

# Jury Swiss Art Awards 2015

## Swiss Grand Award for Art /

## Prix Meret Oppenheim 2015

The jury consists of seven members of the Federal Art Commission, which is selected by the Federal Assembly, as well as five invited experts. The members of the Federal Design Commission and the experts appraise the submitted dossiers as part of the first stage and agree upon a selection for the second round. The artworks are judged in the second round and the awards are decided upon. The jury is also responsible for nominating the winners of the Prix Meret Oppenheim.

### Federal Art Commission

**Nadia Schneider Willen** is a freelance curator and runs the Adolf Wölfli Foundation in the Kunstmuseum Bern. She has been president of the Art Commission since 2012; she was also a member of the commission for several years before that time. She was previously the curator for Modern and Contemporary art at the Musée d'art et d'histoire in Genève, ran and curated the Kunsthaus Glarus (2001-2007) and was involved in the project space Kombirama and the Klein Helmhaus in Zürich in the 1990s. She has curated numerous solo and group exhibitions with both international and Swiss artists. Nadia Schneider Willen was born in 1971 and lives in Zurich.

**Giovanni Carmine** has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2013 and director of the Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen since 2007. Before that time, he was active as a freelance curator and art critic. He curated the Swiss Pavilion at the 55th Biennale di Venezia in 2013. In 2011, as part of the 54th Biennale di Venezia, he was the artistic coordinator of the exhibition *ILLUMInations* and co-editor of the Biennale catalogue. His exhibition *Unloaded* could be seen in Swiss military bunkers in 2002. Giovanni Carmine lives in St. Gall and Zurich. He was born in 1975 in Bellinzona.

**Julie Enckell Julliard** has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2013. She studied in Lausanne, Rome and Paris completed her PhD on Italian Art in the Middle Ages in 2004. In 2001, she received a diploma at the Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design, Geneva, in the field of *Critical Curatorial Cybermedia* (CCC). After a teaching post at the University of Geneva, she was curator for Modern and Contemporary Art at the Musée Jenisch in Vevey from 2007 until 2012 – she has been the museum's director since 2013. She is a member of the Federal Art Commission and the Swiss Engravers' Society. She is also the art advisor for the Collection Nestlé. For the last ten years, Julie Enckell Julliard has researched drawing and presented the results in the form of publications and exhibitions. Julie Enckell Julliard was born in Lausanne in 1974.

The Swiss architect **Andreas Reuter** has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2012 and before that time had served as an expert in the field of architecture. Reuter was born in 1964 in Mainz (Germany) and ended his studies in 1991 at the ETH in Zurich. He subsequently worked for various architects in Zurich, Basel and Berlin, including Herzog & de Meuron, until he founded his own award winning studio, sabarchitekten together with Dominique Salathé in 1997. Andreas Reuter lives in Basel.

**Anne-Julie Raccoursier** has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2015. After studying at the Ecole Supérieure d'Art Visuel in Geneva and the California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles, she has exhibited widely, including Kunsthaus Langenthal (*Loop Line*, 2011), Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2011); o.T. Raum, Lucerne (*Crazy Horse*, 2009); Katharinen, St. Gallen (*Woodstock*, 2008) and Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne (*Non-stop Fun*, 2008). Selected Group exhibitions: *Is It (Y)Ours?*, Museum Bäregasse, Zurich (2014); *A House Full Of Music – Strategies in Music and Art*, Mathildenhöhe, Darmstadt (2012); *Optical Shift, Illusion and Deception*, B-05 Art and Design Centre, Montabaur (2010) and *Shifting Identities*, CAC Vilnius and Kunsthaus Zurich (2009). Anne-Julie Raccoursier lectures CCC - *Research-Based Master Programme - Critical Curatorial Cybermedia* at the Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design (HEAD) in Geneva and the Master in Public Sphere at the Ecole Cantonale d'Art du Valais (ECAV). Raccoursier was born in 1974 in Lausanne. She lives and works in Geneva.

**Anselm Stalder** has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2012. He is an artist and lives and works in Basel. Since 1980, his work has questioned visual possibility, the exhibition as a medium, expanded language and the periphery as a setting. These questions are dealt with in a wide array of media and owe more to leaps of the imagination than stylistic logic. Anselm Stalder lectures Fine Arts at the Hochschule der Künste Bern.

**Noah Stolz** has been a member of the Federal Art Commission since 2009. He works as a freelance curator, producer and critic. His texts have appeared in Mousse Magazine, Kaleidoscope and Kunstbulletin. In 2004, he founded *La Rada*, an independent space for contemporary art in Locarno and was responsible for its program until 2009. He currently works for the project *Stella Maris*, a platform for production and distribution, which was initiated and implemented in cooperation with numerous Swiss and international institutions.

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 Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim.

#### **Mireille Adam Bonnet (architecture)**

Mireille Adam Bonnet, born in 1964, has been an advising expert for the Federal Art Commission since 2013 and is co-director of atelier bonnet architects, which she founded in 2000 together with Pierre Bonnet. She studied at the ETH Lausanne and has also worked as a graduate designer and tailor. Mireille Adam Bonnet lectured as a visiting professor at the ETH Lausanne in 2012 and has been a member of the Association of Swiss Architects (BAS) since 2008. She has been on the BAS Genève committee since 2012. She lives and works in Genève.

#### **Raffael Dörig (digital art)**

Raffael Dörig runs the Kunsthau Langentahl (since 2012). He also lectures at the Haute école d'art et de design (HEAD) in Genève. From 2005 until 2011, he worked at the Medienkunstforum [plug.in] and the Haus für elektronische Künste in Basel. He was co-founder and director of *Shift*, festival for electronic arts (2007 – 2011). Dörig was born in 1976, in St. Gallen and studied art history, media studies and German literature at the Universität Basel.

#### **Latifa Echakhch (visual art)**

Latifa Echakhch was born in 1974, in El Khnansa, Morocco. She lives and works in Martigny. She has exhibited at the Kunstmuseum Linz (2015), Centre Pompidou, Paris (2014); Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2013); Portikus, Frankfurt am Main and Kunsthau Zürich (both 2012) and at the Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel (2009). Selected group exhibitions: *Work Hard*, Swiss Institute, New York City (2015); *Bielefeld Contemporary*, *Zeitgenössische Kunst aus Privatsammlungen*, Bielefelder Kunstverein (2014); *EXPO1:*

*New York*, MoMA PS1, New York City (2013); *ILLUMInazioni / ILLUMInations*, Biennale di Venezia (2011); *After Architects*, Kunsthalle Basel (2010). Latifa Echakhch was awarded the Marcel Duchamp Award in 2013. She is a guest lecturer at the Haute École d'Art et de Design (HEAD) in Genève.

#### **Gabriela Mazza (architecture)**

Gabriela Mazza, born in 1973, in Biel, has been an advising expert for the Federal Art Commission since 2014. After completing her studies in architecture at the ETH Lausanne, she founded the architecture firm mazzapokora in 2006, in Zürich. Prior to that, she worked at :mlzd architects in Biel and Herzog & Meuron architects in Basel. Gabriela Mazza was an assistant to Charles Tashima and Stauffer / Hasler at the ETH Lausanne. She received the Swiss Art Award in 2010. She has been a member of the Cantonal Commission for the care of town and landscapes in Biel Seeland since 2011.

#### **Julika Rudelius (visual art)**

Julika Rudelius was born in 1968 in Cologne. She has been an advising expert for the Federal Art Commission since 2014. She has exhibited at various venues, including the Museum for Arts and Design, New York (2012); Libreria Borges - Institute for Contemporary Art, Guangzhou (2011); and at the Ursula Blickle Stiftung, Kraichtal (2010). Selected Group exhibitions: *From Holland With Love*, Nederlands Fotomuseum, Rotterdam (2013); *Catchphrases and the Powers of Language*, Kunsthau Basel, Basel (2012); *Role Images - Role Playing*, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg (2011); *She Devil 5*, MACRO Museo d'arte Contemporanea di Roma, Rome (2011); *Das ist die Lebenswelt*, Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, Aachen (2010). Rudelius lives and works in Amsterdam and New York. She lectures at the HfG Offenbach.



# History of the Awards

## Swiss Art Awards and 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.”
- 1899 First federal art scholarship awarded to Swiss artists
- 1944 First public exhibition of works by the scholarship holders at the Kunstmuseum Bern
- 1945–62 Exhibition featuring works by the participants at the Kunsthalle Bern
- 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
- 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 Kunsthau, Aarau
- 1985 Exhibition at Artecasa, Lugano
- 1986 Exhibition at Aargauer Kunsthau, Aarau
- 1987–88 Exhibition at Kongresshaus Montreux
- 1989 Exhibition at Kongresshaus Montreux, Kunstmuseum Luzern
- 1990 Exhibition at Kunsthau Zug
- 1991 Exhibition at Kunstmuseum Solothurn
- 1992 Exhibition at Kunstmuseum St. Gallen
- 1993 Exhibition at CentrePasquArt, Biel
- Since 1994 Exhibition featuring second round participants takes place during the Art Basel
- 2001 The Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim is launched and awarded for the first time
- 2015 The Swiss Grand Award for Art is awarded for the first time parallel to Art Basel together with the Swiss Art Awards.

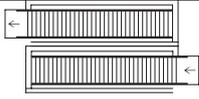
# Award winners

## Swiss Art Awards (selection)

John Armleder 1977, 1978, 1979  
Silvia Bächli 1982, 1984  
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  
Teresa Hubbard / Alexander Birchler 1997, 1999  
Zilla Leutenegger 2005  
Urs Lüthi 1972, 1973, 1974  
Lutz & Guggisberg 1999, 2001, 2002  
Fabian Marti 2010  
Christian Marclay 1988  
Olivier Mosset 2001  
Victorine Müller 2000  
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  
Ugo Rondinone 1991, 1994, 1995  
Pamela Rosenkranz 2008, 2010  
Kilian Rüthemann 2009  
Mario Sala 2003, 2005  
Vittorio Santoro 2001  
Adrian Schiess 1981, 1985, 1988  
Shirana Shahbazi 2004, 2005  
Roman Signer, 1972, 1974, 1977  
Niele Toroni 1964, 1966  
Andro Wekua 2003  
Ingrid Wildi 1999, 2000, 2001

## Swiss Grand Award for Art / Prix Meret Oppenheim

2014 Anton Bruhin, Catherine Quéloz, Pipilotti Rist, pool Architekten  
2013 Thomas Huber, Quintus Miller & Paola Maranta, Marc-Olivier Wahler  
2012 Bice Curiger, Niele Toroni, Günther Vogt  
2011 John Armleder, Patrick Devanthery & Inès Lamunière, Silvia Gmür, Ingeborg Lüscher, Guido Nussbaum  
2010 Gion A. Caminada, Yan Duyvendak, Claudia & Julia Müller, Annette Schindler, Roman Signer  
2009 Ursula Biemann, Roger Diener, Christian Marclay, Muda Mathis & Sus Zwick, Ingrid Wildi Merino  
2008 edition fink (Georg Rutishauser), Mariann Grunder, Manon, Mario Pagliarani, Arthur Rüegg  
2007 Véronique Bacchetta, Kurt W. Forster, Peter Roesch, Anselm Stalder  
2006 Dario Gamboni, Markus Raetz, Catherine Schelbert, Robert Suermondt, Rolf Winnewisser, Peter Zumthor  
2005 Miriam Cahn, Alexander Fickert & Katharina Knapkiewicz, Johannes Gachnang, Gianni Motti, Václav Požárek, Michel Ritter  
2004 Christine Binswanger & Harry Gugger, Roman Kurzmeyer, Peter Regli, Hannes Rickli  
2003 Silvia Bächli, Rudolf Blättler, Hervé Graumann, Harm Lux, Claude Sandoz  
2002 Ian Anüll, Hannes Brunner, Marie José Burki, Relax (Marie-Antoinette Chiarenza, Daniel Croptier, Daniel Hauser), Renée Levi  
2001 Peter Kamm, Ilona Rüegg, George Steinmann



Prix Meret Oppenheim

Köhle/Vermot

Baltensperger + Siepert

Meier & Franz

Swiss Art Awards 2015

Jon Meitz  
Julia Geröcs

Baltensperger + Siepert  
Conen + Sigl  
Tobias Kaspar  
Ottmar Färre

Christopher Füllemann  
Kerstin Schroedinger  
Tobias Madison

Tarik Hayward

Guillaume Pilet

Mathis Altmann

Stehlik + Steemann  
Garrett Nelson  
Blanca Brummer  
Thomas Juler

Yves Scheerer  
Andreas Dobler  
Doris Leach

Georg Keller

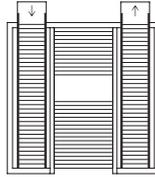
LVPH / Paul Humbert

Karin Hueber

Chloé Delanue  
Kilian Rüttemann  
Gilles Furtwängler  
Sophie Nys  
UBERMORGEN

Maudie Leonard-Contant  
Gilles Aubry  
Melodie Mousset

Jessica Pooch



Patrick Hari

Karin Forlin  
Lena Maria Thüring  
Mathias Huber  
Simon Haenni  
Pauline Beaudenmont

Sabine Schlatter  
Rico & Michael  
Anne Hiltbrand  
Cecil Mogami  
De Haas

Ramon Feller

Julian Charrière

Ramon Feller

Chiracdis + Lehnerer  
Christian Ratti

Sonia Kacem

Kathrin Affentranger

Tobias Nussbaumer

Ramon Feller

Adam Cruces

Kiefer Hablitzel

Lorenzo Berner

Gregory Sagnaux

Anne-Sophie Estoppey

Anja Braun

Jan Hostettler

Aaron Ritschard

Michael Lianza

Selina Baumann

Alfredo Aceto

Lucie Kohler

Marina Sofie Wildberger