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**BMW Art Journey artist shortlist announced during Art Basel in Miami Beach**

**Art Basel and BMW are delighted to present the next artist shortlist and to continue their joint initiative to recognize and support emerging artists worldwide. The BMW Art Journey can take artists almost anywhere in the world to develop new ideas and envision new creative projects. Today, an international expert jury announced A.K. Burns, Jamal Cyrus and Mariela Scafati as the shortlisted artists showing in Positions, the sector for emerging artists at Art Basel's show in Miami Beach.**

**A.K. Burns at Callicoon Fine Arts, New York**

A.K. Burns (b. 1975) lives and works in Brooklyn, United States and received her Master of Fine Arts from the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts in 2010. In her artistic practice, the artist views the body as a contentious domain wherein issues of gender, labor, ecology and sexuality are negotiated. At Art Basel in Miami Beach, she premieres 'Weather Report', an installation that calls forth a dystopian domestic scene, a kind of allegorical space weathered by the current political situation, vexing barriers between the interior and exterior. Recent solo exhibitions include New Museum New York, Callicoon Fine Arts, New York and Michel Rein, Paris. The artist was also included in recent group shows at New Museum, New York, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles.

**Jamal Cyrus at Inman Gallery, Houston**

Jamal Cyrus (b. 1973) was born in Houston, United States, where he still lives and works and received his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Pennsylvania in 2008. Cyrus' work draws on the languages of collage, assemblage, and the cultural politics embedded within Black American music and culture. At this year's Art Basel in Miami Beach, Cyrus is presenting 'STANDARDZENBLÜZ II', a project whose imagery is sampled from concert posters, record covers, Jet Magazine, and the interior of a record store in Tokyo. Cyrus' solo and group exhibitions include Inman Gallery, Houston, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD), Detroit, and Institute of Contemporary Art Philadelphia (ICA), Philadelphia.

**Mariela Scafati at Isla Flotante, Buenos Aires**

Mariela Scafati (b. 1973), born in Olivos near Buenos Aires, still lives and works in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She studied Visual Arts at the ESAV in Bahía Blanca, Argentina. In her artistic practice, she pays attention to the relationship between activism and pictorial manifestations. At this year's Art Basel in Miami Beach show, Scafati is presenting an installation that confirms and eschews the notion of paintings as self-contained entities. Scafati's solo exhibitions include Abate Fine Art, Santa Fe, Instituto de Investigaciones Gino Germani, Buenos Aires and Isla Flotante, Buenos Aires. She has exhibited in recent group shows at Museo de Arte Moderno, Buenos Aires, Bienal do São Paulo, São Paulo and Museo do Arte, São Paulo.

The three shortlisted artists are now invited to develop a proposal for their ideal journey, with the winner to be announced in early 2018.

The members of the expert jury in Miami Beach are:

**Massimiliano Gioni**, Artistic Director, New Museum, New York City  
**Gabi Ngcobo**, Curator, Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, Berlin  
**Victoria Noorthoorn**, Director, Museo de Arte Moderno, Buenos Aires  
**Philip Tinari**, Director, Ullens Centre for Contemporary Art, Beijing  
**Susanne Pfeffer**, Director, Museum Fridericianum, Kassel

'The jury was impressed with the range of works in this year's Positions sector. The jurors took note of the artists' accomplishments to date, keenly anticipating their proposals for the BMW Art Journey. As in the previous editions, the jury was excited by the many different ways in which the artists responded to the challenge of conceiving and realizing a project for Art Basel. The works on view reflect the full spectrum of artistic practices in the global artworld', states the jury.

In collaboration with the winning artist, the journey will be documented and shared with the public through publications, online and social media.

During this year's Miami Beach show, BMW Art Journey winner **Max Hooper Schneider** (b. 1982) is presenting his new work at the BMW Lounge, made in response to his recently completed maritime journey to explore coral reefs around the globe. Entitled 'Planetary Vitrine: The Reef as Event', his journey investigated coral reef systems from the Bikini Atoll to the Fukushima disaster 'reef' in Japan, from Lake Baikal in Russia to the coast of Madagascar. Each reef system has been compromised by its contact with humans, and each one reveals a specific aspect of how this interaction has occurred, as well as how human and non-human agents have acted over time to remediate the damage. Together, the reefs tell a story of death and resilience, corruption and rebirth.

The latest edition in the BMW Art Journey book series is also presented at the fair giving insights about **Abigail Reynolds's** (b. 1975) BMW Art Journey 'The Ruins of Time: Lost Libraries of the Silk Road'. Images, texts and other documents originating from her experience are included in the book – thus completing a journey that both starts and ends with the institution of the library.

BMW is a global partner of Art Basel and has supported Art Basel's three shows in Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong for many years.

For further information, please visit [bmw-art-journey.com](http://bmw-art-journey.com).

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

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### About BMW Art Journey

Launched in 2015, the BMW Art Journey is a collaboration between Art Basel and BMW, created to recognize and support emerging artists worldwide. The prize is open to artists who are showing in Discoveries and Positions in the Hong Kong and Miami Beach show respectively. Two judging expert panels, comprised of internationally renowned experts, shortlist three artists, who are then invited to submit proposals for a journey aimed to further develop their ideas and artistic work. The next judging of the BMW Art Journey will be held during Art Basel in Hong Kong, where three artists from the Discoveries sector will be shortlisted next March. The winner will be announced in late spring 2018. For further information on the BMW Art Journey please visit [bmw-art-journey.com](http://bmw-art-journey.com).

Past winners of the BMW Art Journey include sound and performance artist **Samson Young** (presented by a.m. Space, Hong Kong at Art Basel's Hong Kong show in 2015),

who has represented Hong Kong at the 2017 Venice Biennale; German video artists **Henning Fehr** and **Philipp Rühr** (presented by Galerie Max Mayer, Dusseldorf at Art Basel's Miami Beach show in 2015); British artist **Abigail Reynolds** (presented by Rokeby, London at Art Basel's show in Hong Kong in 2016), **Max Hooper Schneider** who was the fourth winner (presented by High Art, Paris at Art Basel's Miami Beach show in 2016) as well as **Astha Butail** (presented by GALLERYYSKE, New Delhi, Bangalore at Art Basel in Hong Kong in 2017).

#### **About BMW Group's Cultural Commitment**

For almost 50 years now, the BMW Group has initiated and engaged in over 100 cultural cooperations worldwide. The company places the main focus of its long-term commitment on contemporary and modern art, classical music and jazz as well as architecture and design. In 1972, three large-scale paintings were created by the artist Gerhard Richter specifically for the foyer of the BMW Group's Munich headquarters. Since then, artists such as Andy Warhol, Jeff Koons, Daniel Barenboim, Jonas Kaufmann and architect Zaha Hadid have co-operated with BMW. In 2016 and 2017, female artist Cao Fei from China and American John Baldessari created the next two vehicles for the BMW Art Car Collection. Besides co-initiatives, such as BMW Tate Live, the BMW Art Journey and the "Opera for All" concerts in Berlin, Munich and London, the company also partners with leading museums and art fairs as well as orchestras and opera houses around the world. The BMW Group takes absolute creative freedom in all its cultural activities – as this initiative is as essential for producing groundbreaking artistic work as it is for major innovations in a successful business. Further information please visit [bmwgroup.com/culture](http://bmwgroup.com/culture) and [bmwgroup.com/culture/overview](http://bmwgroup.com/culture/overview).

#### **The BMW Group**

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 31 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

#### **About Art Basel**

About Art Basel Founded in 1970 by gallerists from Basel, Art Basel today stages the world's premier art shows for Modern and contemporary art, sited in Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong. Defined by its host city and region, each show is unique, which is reflected in its participating galleries, artworks presented, and the content of parallel programming produced in collaboration with local institutions for each edition.

Art Basel's engagement has expanded beyond art fairs through a number of new initiatives. In 2014, Art Basel launched its Crowdfunding Initiative, in collaboration with Kickstarter. This initiative presents jury-selected art projects to potential benefactors, which include Art Basel's vibrant audience and the Kickstarter community. The initiative has catalyzed much-needed support for outstanding non-commercial art projects worldwide and so far has helped pledge over \$2 million to creative projects around the world. For Art Basel Cities, launched in 2016, Art Basel is working with selected partner cities to develop vibrant and content-driven programs specific to the individual city. Connecting them to the global art world through Art Basel's expertise and network, Art Basel Cities supports its partners to develop their unique cultural landscape. For further information, please visit [artbasel.com](http://artbasel.com).

## **Partners**

UBS, global Lead Partner of Art Basel, has supported the organization for more than 20 years. As Art Basel's global network expanded, UBS increased its lead partnership to include all three shows. In addition, UBS has a long and substantial record of engagement in contemporary art: as a holder of one of the world's most distinguished corporate art collections, as an active partner in global contemporary art projects such as the Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative, and as a source of information and insights through the UBS Arts Forum and the art news-focused app 'Planet Art' app. In March 2017, UBS and Art Basel co-published the Art Basel and UBS Global Art Market Report by Clare McAndrew. Find more details at [ubs.com/art](http://ubs.com/art).

Art Basel's Associate Partners, supporting all three shows, are MGM Resorts International – one of the world's leading entertainment companies with a long-standing commitment to presenting and supporting art in public spaces; Audemars Piguet, whose expanding activities in contemporary art include the Audemars Piguet Art Commission; and NetJets – the world leader in private aviation. Art Basel is also supported globally by BMW, who has co-developed with Art Basel the BMW Art Journey, and Ruinart, Official Champagne Partner. Art Basel's Media Partner is The Financial Times. For further information about partnerships, please visit [artbasel.com/partners](http://artbasel.com/partners).

## **Upcoming Art Basel shows**

Miami Beach, December 7-10, 2017

Hong Kong, March 29-31, 2018

Basel, June 14-17, 2018

## **Press accreditation for the Miami Beach show**

Online registration for press accreditation is open. It is important to register and apply online before coming to the fair. Please visit [artbasel.com/accreditation](http://artbasel.com/accreditation).

## **Media information online**

Media information and images can be downloaded directly from [artbasel.com/press](http://artbasel.com/press). Journalists can subscribe to our media mailings to receive information on Art Basel.

For the latest updates on Art Basel, visit [artbasel.com](http://artbasel.com), find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/artbasel](https://facebook.com/artbasel) or follow @artbasel on Instagram, Google+, Twitter, Weibo and Wechat.

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