

Press release

Un Paon et un Hippopotame se lancent dans un Débat Existentiel

(A Peacock and a Hippo Walk into an Existential Debate)

Solo exhibition by Basim Magdy

Curator: Sandrine Wymann

June 6 – August 25 2019

Press preview: Wednesday June 6th 2019, 5 pm at La Kunsthalle

Opening: Wednesday June 6th 2019, 6.30 pm

During Art Basel: Reception at La Kunsthalle, Friday June 14th from 7 pm to 10 pm

(Shuttle from Basel to Mulhouse: Departure at 6.15 pm - Corner Isteinerstrasse –Bleicherstrasse. Return to Basel at 9.15pm)



Basim Magdy, *New Acid* - Super 16mm film, screenshot, 2019

From 6 June to 25 August 2019, La Kunsthalle Mulhouse welcomes *A Peacock and a Hippo Walk into an Existential Debate*, a monographic exhibition by **Basim Magdy**.

Basim Magdy is fascinated by science, the unexplained and the extraordinary. He also loves the beauty of words, the musicality of sounds and the harmony of artistic gradations. He is an artist of Egyptian origin who has inherited a taste for monumental projects from his ancestors. In paintings, photographs and films, Basim Magdy uses visual fragments of the world and reshapes them like a scientist carrying out experiments to transform existing reality. He then attains new materials with which he raises existential questions and tells more personal stories.

New Acid is the title of the new film written and directed by Basim Magdy. It was produced by La Kunsthalle Mulhouse and its premiere will take place during the exhibition. A selection of photographs, paintings, videos and installations will be shown to the public for the first time. The works will be displayed in locations painted according to the artist's instructions. The exhibition will be an artwork in itself, welcoming visitors and inviting them to make it their own.

Basim Magdy (b. 1977, Assiut) is an artist based in Basel, Switzerland.

His work appeared recently in solo and group exhibitions at MoMA The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Athens Biennial; Beaufort Triennial, Belgium; South London Gallery; University Galleries at Illinois State University; MAAT Museum, Lisbon; Gothenburg Biennial; Arnolfini, Bristol; Castello di Rivoli, Torino; MCA Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Turin; New Museum Triennial, New York; MAXXI National Museum of the 21st Century Arts, Rome; Jeu de Paume, Paris; CAPC Museum of Contemporary Art, Bordeaux; Deutsche Bank KunstHalle, Berlin; Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-On-Hudson, New York; Whitechapel Gallery, London; KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin; The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago; Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw; La Biennale de Montreal, Montreal; MEDIACITY Seoul Biennial; 13th Istanbul Biennial; Sharjah Biennial 11 and 13; Les Ateliers de Rennes – Biennale d'art contemporain 2010 and 2018, France; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; The High Line, New York, La Triennale: Intense Proximity, Palais de Tokyo, Paris. He was shortlisted for the Future Generation Art Prize, Kiev (2012) and won the Abraaj Art Prize, Dubai and the New:Vision Award, CPH:DOX Film Festival, Copenhagen (2014) and the Experimental Award at the Curtas Vila do Conde – International Film Festival, Portugal (2015). He was selected Deutsche Bank's 2016 Artist of the Year (2016). His films were the subject of special screening programs at Tate Modern, International Film Festival Rotterdam, ICA London among many others.

www.basimmagdy.com

The exhibition is supported by Pro Helvetia and the Division of Cultural Affairs of Basel-Stadt.

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Mulhouse Art Contemporain is a partner of La Kunsthalle.

Opening hours

Saturday to Tuesday, from 2 to 6 pm

Wednesday to Friday, from 12 to 6 pm

During Art Basel week (June 11th to June 14th):

Open Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 6pm – late-night opening on Friday 14th until 10pm (Art Basel Reception)

Closed on Mondays and Tuesday in July and August + June 10th, July 14th, August 15th

Free entrance

Location

La Kunsthalle Mulhouse - Centre d'art contemporain

La Fonderie - 16 rue de la Fonderie

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La Kunsthalle is a City of Mulhouse cultural establishment.

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