

Press Release – Verbier Art Summit announces 2020 programme 10 December 2019

From 31 January to 1 February 2020, the Verbier Art Summit will present its fourth edition, in partnership with Jessica Morgan, Nathalie de Gunzburg Director of Dia Art Foundation in New York. The Summit is pleased to announce the full programme on the urgent theme:

RESOURCE HUNGRY *OUR CULTURED LANDSCAPE AND ITS ECOLOGICAL IMPACT*

“This is a moment to reflect on doing less, better and for longer” states **Jessica Morgan**. In the face of a rapidly expanding cultural world, the 2020 Verbier Art Summit will ask how to envision a way forward in finding harmony between art, ecology and resources.

TALKS PROGRAMME

The 2020 Summit speakers are invited by Jessica Morgan and include multi-disciplinary artists **Jennifer Allora, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, Joan Jonas, Lucy Raven** and **Stefan Kaegi**; architects **Adrian Lahoud** and **Philippe Rahm**; curator **Elvira Dyangani Ose**; philosopher **Djamila Ribeiro**; art historian **Dorothea von Hantelmann** and **El Último Grito** (academic designer duo Professor **Roberto Feo & Rosario Hurtado**).

The interdisciplinary Summit programme will offer perspectives on a resource hungry epoch, focusing on the impact of humans on the landscape across the fields of art, design, architecture and engineering.

The artist **Joan Jonas** will open the 2020 Summit by addressing the present dangers of climate change and extinction through her work that combines video, poetry, and research on the natural world and the animals that inhabit it. Further ideas on collective responsibility will be offered by Brazilian philosopher, author and social activist **Djamila Ribeiro**, who states *“it is not sustainable for one group to dominate the production of knowledge, life, and existence”*. Her feminist voice on ethnicity, oppression and inequalities will give a deeper insight into our diverse environment.

Our cultured landscape will be explored by architect and curator of the current Sharjah Architecture Triennial, **Adrian Lahoud**, who believes it is time to *“radically rethink fundamental questions about architecture and its power to create and sustain alternative modes of existence.”* This notion is also addressed by the Swiss architect **Philippe Rahm**: *“it is now necessary to redefine the language of our discipline”* empowering and exploring a new mode of ‘climatic architecture’ for the future.



Dean of the School of Architecture at the Royal College of Art, Adrian Lahoud.

Art changes minds, which will be further placed in context by Professor of Art and Society **Dorothea von Hantelmann**, who will explore the pertinent and expanding power of art in global societies. An innovative way to research this is offered by artist **Stefan Kaegi**, one of the founders of Rimini Protokoll, who are expanding the means of the theatre to create new perspectives on reality. His Summit talk will focus on his current projects such as the World Climate Change Conference simulation.

The Summit will be concluded with a collective moment led by **Julie’s Bicycle**, a London based charity that supports the creative community to act on climate change and environmental sustainability.

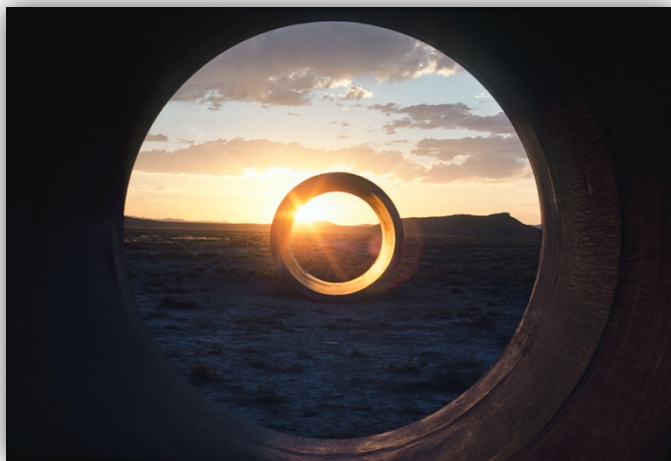
CULTURAL PROGRAMME

In addition to the talks programme, the 2020 Verbier Art Summit collaborates each year with several partners to present a cultural programme held at various locations around Verbier.

A collaboration with **HEAD** – Genève, Haute école d'art et de design, resulted in students from the MA Space & Communication developing alternative formats for public speaking and communication while enlisting their thinking about how to disseminate the speakers' contributions. An installation that will be visible throughout the Summit in collaboration with the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)** is **Samuel Turpin's** *Humans & Climate Change Stories*. The documentary approach follows 12 families scattered around the globe who are directly impacted by the effects of climate change.

The Summit is also delighted to announce its continued partnership with the **United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR)**, working to protect and assist refugees worldwide. Their Director of Programme Support & Management, **Andrew Harper**, will increase awareness on the communities most effected by today's climate crisis. An innovation workshop will be provided by **Alison Tickell** of **Julie's Bicycle**, highlighting the important work they did with the Arts Council England, implementing environmental policy and action plans in over 350 art organisations. For some actual mountain inspiration, a guided tour will be organised by the **Verbier 3-D Foundation** in the Sculpture Park and an on-site artwork will be developed by their current artist in residency **Karsten Födinger**.

More art can be found at the Verbier Cinema, with a film programme of the **Biennale de l'Image en Mouvement**, curated by **Andrea Bellini** of the Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève and **Andrea Lissoni** of Tate Modern in London (future director of Haus der Kunst in Munich). A collaboration with the renowned **Verbier Festival** offers a talk and live performance of composer **Gabriel Prokofiev's** Suite for Global Junk, *Import/Export* with percussionist **Joby Burgess**. Their work uses global junk materials to create socially aware music centred on the theme of globalisation.



Nancy Holt, *Sun Tunnels*, 1973–76. Great Basin Desert, Utah. Dia Art Foundation with support from Holt/Smithson Foundation. © Holt/Smithson Foundation and Dia Art Foundation/Licensed by VAGA at Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY. Photo: Nancy Holt, courtesy Holt/Smithson Foundation.

With the aim to educate, provoke and inspire, the Verbier Art Summit welcomes those with a love for art, innovation and ecology to participate in its two-day free programme of art talks in Verbier, or online via its series of live broadcasts on 31 January and 1 February 2020. The talks are held in English and will be translated live into French.

To register and for more information on the theme, speakers and the 2020 Summit's cultural programme, please visit verbierartsummit.org or follow us Instagram [@verbierartsummit](https://www.instagram.com/verbierartsummit) Twitter [@verbierartnow](https://twitter.com/verbierartnow)

About the Verbier Art Summit

The Verbier Art Summit is an international platform for discourse in a non-transactional context. In partnership with a yearly rotating international museum director, the non-profit Summit connects thought leaders to key figures in the art world to generate innovative ideas and drive social change. To expand the conversation into a global dialogue, the speakers contribute to the Summit publication series, available online and in art bookshops worldwide.

2020 VERBIER ART SUMMIT PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 31 JANUARY 2020

Mid-day inspiration

13.15-14.15: Workshop by Julie's Bicycle – **Alison Tickell**, *W Hotel, Verbier*

13.15-14.15: Verbier 3-D Foundation – *Erratic Expedition* with **Karsten Födinger**, *Medran*

14.30-18.00 Talks programme 2020 Verbier Art Summit, *W Hotel, Verbier*

14.30-14.35: Welcome – **Anneliek Sijbrandij**, Founder Verbier Art Summit

14.35-14.45: Introduction – **Jessica Morgan**, Dia Art Foundation, New York

14.45-15.05: **Joan Jonas**: Artist in conversation with Jessica Morgan

15.05-15.25: **El Último Grito**: Professor of Design Practice Roberto Feo & Rosario Hurtado

15.25-15.45: **Djamila Ribeiro** – Philosopher

15.45-16.00: Q&A panel

16.00-16.30: Break

16.30-16.50: **Adrian Lahoud** – Architect

16.50-17.10: **Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster** – Artist

17.10-17.30: **Philippe Rahm** – Architect

17.30-17.45: Q&A panel

17.45-18.00: Closing remarks – **Jessica Morgan**, Dia Art Foundation, New York

Evening programme

22.30-0.00: Screening of three short films from the Biennale de l'Image en Mouvement:

Karimah Ashadu, *Red Gold*; **Eduardo Williams** with Mariano Blatt, *Parsi*; **Korakrit**

Arunanondchai, *No History in a Room filled with People with Funny Names*. The film screening will be followed by a talk with the artists and Biennale curator, **Andrea Lissoni**, *Verbier Cinema*

SATURDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2020

Mid-day inspiration

13.15-14.00: Verbier Festival – Talk and live performance of **Gabriel Prokofiev**'s Suite for Global Junk, *Import/Export* with percussionist **Joby Burgess**, *W Hotel, Verbier*

13.15-14.15: Verbier 3-D Foundation – Sculpture Park art walk in the snow, *Medran at 13.00*

14.30-18.30 Talks programme 2020 Verbier Art Summit, *W Hotel, Verbier*

14.30-14.35: Welcome – **Anneliek Sijbrandij**, Founder Verbier Art Summit

14.35-14.45: Introduction – **Jessica Morgan**, Dia Art Foundation, New York

14.45-15.05: **Lucy Raven** – Artist

15.05-15.25: **Dorothea von Hantelmann** – Professor of Art and Society

15.25-15.45: **Elvira Dyangani Ose** – Curator

15.45-16.00: Q&A panel

16.00-16.30: Break

16.30-16.50: An interview with **Andrew Harper** – UNHCR Director

16.50-17.10: **Jennifer Allora** – Artist

17.10-17.30: **Stefan Kaegi** – Artist

17.30-17.50: **Alison Tickell** – Julie's Bicycle

17.50-18.05: Q&A panel

18:05-18:30: Aperitif & Closing presentation – **Jessica Morgan**, Dia Art Foundation, New York

Evening programme

23.00: DJ set featuring **Gabriel Prokofiev** offering a fresh approach to classical and electronic dance music, *L'Étoile, Verbier*

About Jessica Morgan

Jessica Morgan joined Dia Art Foundation as Director in January 2015 and was named Nathalie de Gunzburg Director in October 2017. At Dia, Morgan is responsible for strengthening and activating all parts of Dia's multivalent program, including its pioneering Land art projects, site-specific commissions, and collections and programming across its constellation of sites. Since Morgan's arrival at Dia, the foundation has grown and diversified its collection to include significant works by Mary Corse, Nancy Holt, Robert Morris, Dorothea Rockburne, Kishio Suga, Anne Truitt, and Lee Ufan among others.

Alongside an expanded exhibition programme, Morgan has continued Dia's commitment to site-specific commissions, facilitating major new work by artists including Isabel Lewis, Rita McBride and Joëlle Tuerlinckx, and in 2015 realizing the first Dia commission outside the continental United States since 1982 with Allora & Calzadilla's *Puerto Rican Light (Cueva Vientos)*, situated in Puerto Rico. In 2018, Morgan announced a comprehensive, multi-year campaign, that includes the upgrade, revitalization, and ongoing stewardship of Dia's key programmatic spaces and artist sites.

About Anneliek Sijbrandij

Anneliek Sijbrandij is the Founder of the Verbier Art Summit. Before changing careers to art, she worked as a tax lawyer for professional services firm Deloitte in Amsterdam and London for over 10 years. In 2012, she followed her passion for art and studied Modern & Contemporary Art and Art World Practice in London. Whilst living in Verbier, she began creating a not for profit event, where thought leaders would be connected to key figures in the art world, generating new visions and initiatives with each edition. One of these leading figures in the art world is Beatrix Ruf, who strongly believed in the concept. From there, exciting exchanges and long conversations initiated. In the summer of 2014 Sijbrandij founded the Verbier Art Summit, and ideas continued to develop among the Founding Members in the winters of 2015 and 2016.

By January 2017, the first Summit took place: *Size Matters! (De)Growth of the 21st Century Art Museum*, curated by Beatrix Ruf and her curatorial team at the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam. Then the Summit has partnered with Daniel Birnbaum, director of Moderna Museet Stockholm, *More than Real. Art in the Digital Age* and with Jochen Volz, museum director of Pinacoteca de São Paulo, *We are Many. Art, the Political and Multiple Truths*. Under the themes chosen by these directors, the Verbier Art Summit attracted thought leaders such as architect Rem Koolhaas; curators Michelle Kuo, Karen Archey and Gabi Ngcobo; writers/researchers Federico Campagna, Cissie Fu and Boaventura de Sousa Santos; artists Tino Seghal, Ernesto Neto, Grada Kilomba, Olafur Eliasson, Anicka Yi, Ed Atkins, Tania Bruguera and Rirkrit Tiravanija.

Anneliek Sijbrandij is the Managing Director of the Summit team, ensuring the international platform remains completely not for profit and continues to act as a catalyst for innovation and change.

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