Art Fairs
Our Guide to All 7 Art Fairs Coming to Basel This Year, From the Blue-Chip to the Tongue-in-Cheek

Seven fairs are descending on Basel this month. Here's what to see.

Caroline Goldstein June 5, 2019

The global art calendar’s most sophisticated fair, Art Basel, is upon us again. That means dealers will be bringing their best and brightest to the picturesque Swiss city, and not just at the main event, but at the many satellite fairs orbiting it. Here’s a rundown of all the fairs coming to town—with the notable absence this year of the Scope Art Show—so you won’t miss a thing.

Art Basel
Thursday, June 13–Sunday, June 16

The big kahuna of the week is without a doubt Art Basel, set in its native Switzerland city with 290 exhibitors coming to show. Among the highlights are Romanian artist Alexandra Pirici’s ongoing work Aggregate (2017-19), which will take place on Basel’s Messeplatz, where performers will spontaneously pick from a list of rehearsed enactments and engage with the audience, and octogenarian artist Joan Semmel’s monumental new eight-by-24-foot painting in the Unlimited sector, Skin in the Game.

Also on display in the Unlimited sector, curated for the final year by the Hirshhorn Museum’s Gianni Jetzer, will be works by Andrea Bowers, Kerry James Marshall, Hélio Oiticica, Jacolby Satterwhite, and Franz West.

Vernissage (by invitation only): Wednesday, 4 p.m.–8 p.m.; Thursday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–7 p.m.; General admission CHF 58 ($58)
Art Basel is located at Messeplatz 10, 4058 Basel