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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**BUENOS AIRES | APRIL 24 | 2018**

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### **Art Basel Cities Week in Buenos Aires: Program Announced**

Taking place across three neighborhoods of the city, 'Hopscotch', curated by Cecilia Alemani, has been conceived as a journey through the city of Buenos Aires, occupying grand plazas and striking parks, abandoned buildings and museums of curiosities, derelict architectural structures and industrial relics that are not typically devoted to contemporary art. The selected artists were invited to create artworks in close dialogue with each of the venues, shaping a multilayered experience that connects visual arts, urban spaces and the city's histories in unexpected ways. The participating artists comprise Eduardo Basualdo, Pia Camil, Maurizio Cattelan, Gabriel Chaile, Alex Da Corte, Santiago de Paoli, David Horvitz, Leandro Katz, Barbara Kruger, Luciana Lamothe, Ad Minoliti, Eduardo Navarro, Mika Rottenberg, Mariela Scafati, Vivian Suter and Stan VanDerBeek. 'Hopscotch' will be accompanied by a Talks and a Cultural Partner Program, organized in partnership with the city's leading arts institutions. The Art Basel Cities Week, taking place from September 6 – 12, 2018, is an integral part of the program of Art Basel Cities: Buenos Aires, whose Global Lead Partner is UBS.

This year's program is titled 'Hopscotch (*Rayuela*)' and borrows its name from the groundbreaking experimental novel by Argentine writer Julio Cortázar. Originally published in 1963, the novel follows a non-linear narrative that can be read in multiple sequences, jumping from chapter to chapter, as suggested by the title inspired by the ancient children's street game popular in many cultures. Like the book and the game, the public art program hopscotches through the city, shaping possible journeys and different paths through urban space, creating unexpected connections between sites and artworks. Through this exploration of the city, local audiences and international visitors alike will discover never-seen-before venues and forgotten landmarks that will host artworks realized specifically for the Art Basel Cities Week. The artworks presented as part of 'Hopscotch' span from site-specific sculptures and experiential installations to live performances and participatory actions – most were specifically created for the program. Offering both, spectacular gestures and subtle interventions, artists have been commissioned to create works that will infiltrate the fabric of the city, creating new experiences, functioning as platforms for different encounters with art against the unique background of the city of Buenos Aires.

"I am honored to work in such an inspiring city as Buenos Aires. In the past months, I have visited many artists and cultural institutions and I am very excited by the depth, richness and effervescence of the local art scene", says Cecilia Alemani, Artistic Director, Art Basel Cities Week. "Hopscotch brings together both Argentine and international artists who are working closely with the sites we selected for the program to create a full immersive experience that intertwines art and the city. It explores various locales along the waterside, connecting the neighborhood of La Boca, through Puerto Madero to that of Palermo, while intersecting many different venues that were built near the river. All in different ways, the artists in the program imagine new types of choral participation, composing intricate choreographies in which individuals and collectivities are woven into new models of co-existence."

The program features a strong selection of Argentine artists such as **Eduardo Basualdo** whose installation along the Rio de la Plata will conjure up a progression of sculptural

encounters engaging the viewers in a unique sensorial landscape; **Ad Minoliti** will stage her work in one of the few early 20th century Rationalist buildings in Buenos Aires, creating an installation that will also host a feminist symposium featuring talks and conversations with artists, writers and activists; Buenos Aires based artist **Luciana Lamothe** will present an oversized sculpture that will function as an extension of its site, evoking a space suspended between construction and destruction, present and future, architecture and ruin.

One of the highlights of the program is a special intervention by Italian artist **Maurizio Cattelan**. An experiment in social sculpture, Cattelan's project – titled *Eternity* – will create a pop up, temporary cemetery for the living, realized in collaboration with hundreds of artists in Buenos Aires. Through an open call, artists and amateurs are invited to participate in this project by designing and creating gravestones and tombstones for people – friends and enemies, real individuals or imaginary characters, lovers and haters – that are still alive. This grotesque, fictional cemetery will be located in Palermo.

Many artists presented in 'Hopscotch' focus on the representation of bodies, both as tools for performances and collective actions, and as a locus for the construction of identities and communities. Mexico City-based artist **Pia Camil** creates environments that collapse the distance between the artwork and the audience into a shared experience. Camil will present an iteration of her ongoing project that utilizes T-shirts to trace sources of cultural heritage and routes of exchange. American artist **David Horvitz** will pay homage to Marcel Duchamp, commemorating the centennial of the French artist's nine months sojourn in Buenos Aires in 1918.

Alongside 'Hopscotch', Art Basel Cities Week will present a cultural partner program of exhibitions, performances and special events at the city's leading museums, foundations, associations and non-profit organizations, selected by Alemani. The week will be completed by an extensive talks program focusing on Buenos Aires' active art scene and including in-situ conversations with the artists participating in the program.

Art Basel Cities is supported by UBS as Global Lead Partner, who, building on its existing support of the shows, has extended its support to the new initiative on a global level. Alejandro Velez, Head of Latin America, UBS said: "UBS is focused on offering our clients new perspectives and insights. Our long partnership with Art Basel is rooted in our shared belief in developing a global cultural platform for the exchange of innovative ideas. We are excited to support Art Basel Cities and by the opportunities the program offers to discover and engage with extraordinary cultural projects around the world, starting with Buenos Aires, a city with a thriving cultural community."

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

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### About Cecilia Alemani

Cecilia Alemani is the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, the public art program presented by the non-profit organization Friends of the High Line in New York City. She was the curator of the Italian Pavilion at the 2017 Venice Biennale. Since 2012, she has commissioned and curated public art projects on the High Line by over two hundred artists. For the Italian Pavilion, she organized the exhibition *Il mondo magico*, featuring new commissions by Giorgio Andreotta Calò, Roberto Cuoghi and Adelita Husni-Bey. Throughout her career, Alemani has collaborated with many museums, institutions, and foundations such as MoMA/PS1, New York; Tate Modern, London; and the Deste Foundation, Athens, and has also pursued more unconventional projects with non-profits and informal organizations. Alemani worked as guest curator for the performance art

biennial Performa 11. She is the co-founder of No Soul For Sale, a festival of independent spaces, non-profit organizations, and artist collectives which took place at X Initiative in June 2009. From January 2009 to February 2010, she served as Curatorial Director of X Initiative, New York, a year-long experimental non-profit space in Chelsea.

### **About Art Basel Cities: Buenos Aires**

A long-term collaboration with the vibrant Argentine capital, Art Basel Cities: Buenos Aires will explore and expand the city's cultural ecosystem and highlight its dynamic art scene, promoting it to a global audience and Art Basel's extensive network. The long-term elements of the program were launched in November 2017 comprising of several initiatives to help facilitate professional collaborations, catalyze support for cultural projects, and help strengthen the local art scene. The Art Basel Cities Week, curated by Cecilia Alemani, will be taking place in Buenos Aires from September 6 –12, 2018. For further information on Art Basel Cities: Buenos Aires please visit [artbasel.com/cities/buenos-aires](http://artbasel.com/cities/buenos-aires).

### **About Buenos Aires**

With three million inhabitants working and living in the city, spreading over 203 km<sup>2</sup>, Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina, profits from a very active cultural agenda with an array of world-renowned museums, public collections, theatres, libraries and exhibition spaces in the heart of the city. It boasts a very lively and vibrant art scene with more than 80 art galleries. In the last few years Buenos Aires has brought to life a development project of a new art and design district in La Boca and Barracas, which has enhanced the city and created many artistic opportunities for the local communities.

This program is fully supported by the Mayor of the City of Buenos Aires across various government departments. Among the departments involved there is the Ministry of Culture as well as the Tourism Board. Among National Government areas involved there is the Argentine Investment and Trade Promotion Agency.

### **Art Basel Cities 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. 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 2018, UBS and Art Basel co-published the second Art Basel and UBS Global Art Market Report by Clare McAndrew. Today, UBS have also furthered their support of Art Basel by becoming Global Lead Partner of Art Basel Cities. Find more details at [ubs.com/art](http://ubs.com/art).

### **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 which catalyzed much needed support for outstanding non-commercial art projects worldwide and helped garner pledges in excess of USD 2 million in support of around 70 art projects from around the globe – from Bogota to Ho Chi Minh City, San José and Kabul. 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).

#### **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 and Art Basel Cities.

For the latest updates on Art Basel and the Art Basel Cities program, 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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