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Monthly Newsletter

The Absurd and the Dreamlike Opens at La Citadelle



This June, ARTSA presents *The Absurd and the Dreamlike* at La Citadelle, Villefranche-sur-Mer, bringing together Belgian artist Arne Quinze and Portuguese artist Joana Vasconcelos within one of the French Riviera's most historic cultural sites.

Curated by Selcan Atilgan, with the curatorial contribution of Clare Lilley, the exhibition unfolds across the monumental architecture of La Citadelle, a 16th-century fortress overlooking the Mediterranean. Presented under the direction of Camille Frasca, the project creates a dialogue between contemporary sculpture, site-specific installation, historical memory, and the dreamlike atmosphere of the Côte d'Azur.

Through Quinze's organic, large-scale forms and Vasconcelos's richly layered visual language, *The Absurd and the Dreamlike* explores imagination, transformation, and the fragile boundary between reality and fantasy. Set against the architectural and symbolic presence of La Citadelle, the exhibition reflects ARTSA's broader vision: to create culturally meaningful encounters between artists, heritage sites, and international audiences.

Art Basel Returns to Basel



Art Basel returns to Basel from 18 to 21 June 2026, once again gathering the international art world around modern and contemporary art. This year's edition brings together 290 galleries from 43 countries and territories, including 21 first-time participants.

Beyond the fair booths, Basel will also host ambitious public and large-scale projects, including Art Basel's Unlimited sector and new public commissions connected to the Art Basel Awards. The fair remains a key market and cultural moment, setting the tone for international collecting, institutional visibility, and gallery strategy.

Liste Art Fair Basel Spotlights Emerging Positions



Running from 15 to 21 June 2026, Liste Art Fair Basel will bring together 106 galleries from 36 countries at Messe Basel. Known as one of the leading platforms for younger galleries and emerging artists, Liste offers a more experimental counterpoint to Art Basel's blue-chip landscape. The 2026 edition includes solo and duo presentations, performances, talks, guided tours, a film programme, and the Spine Book Forum. It continues to serve as a key site for discovering new artistic voices and tracking the next generation of contemporary practices.

VOLTA Basel Continues Its Focus on Discovery



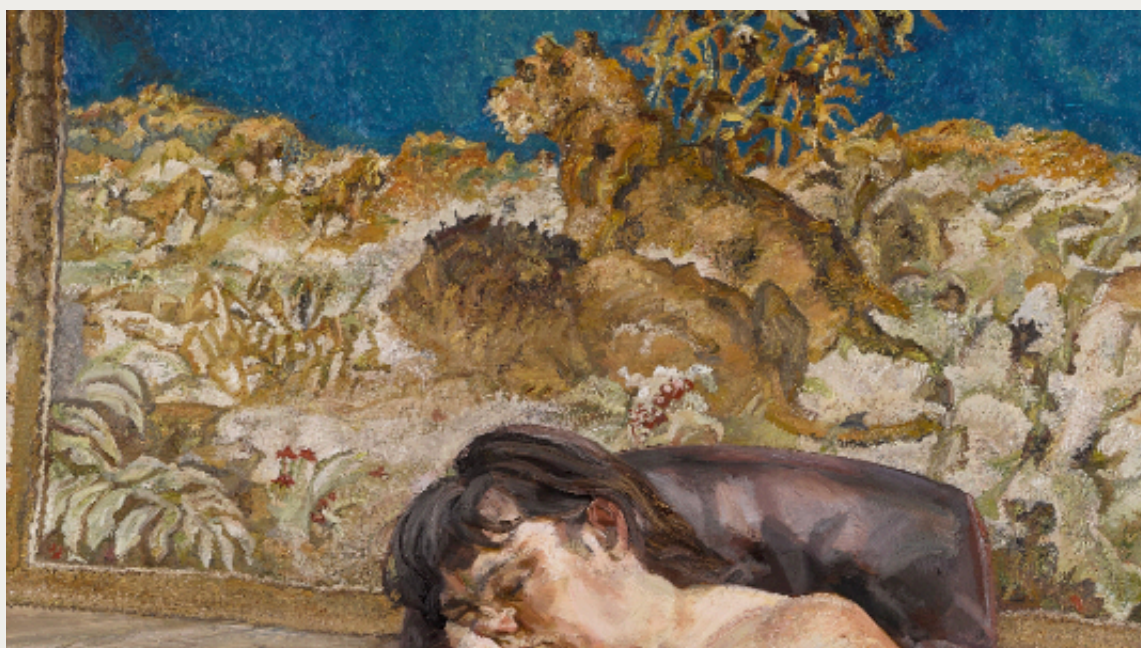
VOLTA Basel returns from 17 to 21 June 2026 with its continued focus on emerging talent, new ideas, and galleries operating at a pivotal stage of development. Positioned alongside the wider Basel fair week, VOLTA offers collectors and curators a more discovery-driven environment. The fair has become an important alternative platform within Basel's dense art calendar, giving visibility to artists and galleries working outside the most established commercial circuits while maintaining a curated and international profile.

Photo Basel Highlights Photography-Based Art



Photo Basel takes place from 16 to 21 June 2026 as Switzerland's first and only international art fair dedicated to photography-based art. Located in Basel during one of the most important weeks in the art calendar, the fair offers a focused view of contemporary and modern photographic practices. Its position within Basel's art week makes it a valuable destination for collectors interested in photography, image culture, and the expanding role of lens-based media within the contemporary art market.

Lucian Freud Portrait Heads to Sotheby's London





A major Lucian Freud portrait of Sue Tilley, from 1996, is set to appear at Sotheby's London on 24 June with an estimate of £25 million to £35 million. The sale brings renewed attention to Freud's portraiture, the relationship between artist and sitter, and the continued strength of historically significant figurative painting at auction. It also reflects the market's ongoing appetite for rare, museum-level works with strong provenance and cultural visibility.

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Our mailing address is:

ARTSA · Beyazgul Street · Arnavutkoy 34345 · Turkiye

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