

Media Release, May 9, 2017

In cooperation with UBS, the Fondation Beyeler is starting the internationally oriented program of Artist Talks – The first talk in the series will be with the artist Tino Sehgal on May 30, 2017

Artist Talks is a new, internationally oriented program of the Fondation Beyeler that is being organized with the support of UBS. The talks have an open, dynamic format ranging from a classic talk by an artist to moderated conversations between artists and personalities from the art world. With this program Fondation Beyeler is taking Artist Talks on tour for the first time. In addition to Basel, Artist Talks are planned for major international cities such as London, Seoul, Shanghai and Istanbul. An extensive digital campaign, based on videos and social media with possible live formats will be a central element of the program's communication via the Fondation Beyeler's website www.fondationbeyeler.ch/en/artisttalks.

As snapshots in time, Artist Talks are a particular kind of document providing an insight into artists' motivation and their often surprising attitudes towards their work. They illustrate how artists address the themes that are of central importance to the process of artistic creativity. They are a unique opportunity to experience contemporary artists in person and to gain first-hand insights into their way of working.

The first talk in the series will be between the Anglo-German artist Tino Sehgal, Sam Keller, Director, and Theodora Vischer, Senior Curator of the Fondation Beyeler on May 30, 2017. Between the end of May and the end of October 2017, Sehgal is presenting a series of six successive works at the Fondation Beyeler. Those works, which Sehgal calls "constructed situations", consist of a set of briefing instructions that are adopted by interpreters. Sehgal's work exists only in the encounter itself, leaving no material traces behind it. There are no reproductions or catalogues; the work exists only momentarily, vanishing immediately afterwards. Because Sehgal's art cannot be represented through pictures, the Artist Talks will take on a particular significance, offering a unique and rare occasion to explore the nature of Sehgal's creativity.

Since 2004, the Fondation Beyeler and UBS have had a successful partnership, which initially focused on art education. The Artist Talks program represents the continuation of this successful cooperation with a new focal point as far as content is concerned. The cooperation makes it possible for the Fondation Beyeler to move beyond Switzerland's borders to fascinating cities and exciting countries. As a result, it will be brought closer to an international audience. Art knows no frontiers.

Sam Keller, Director of Fondation Beyeler: "We are thrilled to have this chance to continue our long-standing partnership with UBS and are happy that, with the Artist Talks program, we have found a format suited to both partners. I am particularly pleased that some of the talks will be held outside Basel, in various cities around the world, since this will bring the Fondation Beyeler closer to an international audience".

Jürg Zeltner, President UBS Wealth Management: "UBS is proud to extend its long term partnership with the esteemed Fondation Beyeler by supporting this program. Our clients value our involvement in the art world and are passionate about the inspiration and the sense of discovery we provide through partnerships that enable meaningful dialogue about contemporary art. The Artist Talks series will strengthen our efforts to offer our clients direct access and insights into the creative lives of some of the most influential and dynamic artists working today."

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Mary Rozell, Global Head, UBS Art Collection stated, "UBS values our collaborative work with the Fondation Beyeler and our ongoing support of their important series of educational initiatives. Extending our partnership with the museum through this new program of artists talks enables us to establish a strong connection and dialogue between our respective collections, as many of the artists collected by the Fondation Beyeler are also represented in our own renowned contemporary collection."

Kontakt:

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