

## Press Release – Announcement 2025 Verbier Art Summit

**Verbier, Switzerland, 17 September 2024** – The Verbier Art Summit is proud to announce its 2025 partnership with **Philip Tinari**, director of the UCCA Center for Contemporary Art in China. The much-anticipated relaunch of the Summit in Verbier, Switzerland, will take place on 4 & 5 April 2025, addressing an urgent theme:

### QUARTER LIFE CRISIS Art in a World on the Brink

“Taking its title from the pop-psychology name for the anxiety of young adulthood coined in the early 2000s, this edition of the Verbier Art Summit will bring together artists and thinkers from across geographies and generations to ask questions about the geopolitical, digital, human and institutional dimensions of the art world in the twenty-first century, to which there are no easy answers”, states Philip Tinari.



Philip Tinari, director of the UCCA Center for Contemporary Art in China and 2025 partnering museum director of the Verbier Art Summit. Photo by Stefen Chow.

In his curatorial statement, Tinari writes that the 2025 Summit edition looks to situate the precarious state of the art world a quarter of the way through the twenty-first century, at the intersection of several related vectors: the long slide from unipolar to multipolar geopolitics, an ongoing digital acceleration, and the articulation and intersection of complex identities and subjectivities:

“After an extended pandemic hiatus, and in light of myriad reckonings, upheavals, and conflicts, the Verbier Art Summit returns to ask: *How might we understand our collective quarter life crisis? And who might counsel us through this global moment of anxiety?*”

### About the Summit

Anneliek Sijbrandij, Founder of the Verbier Art Summit, is pleased to once again welcome artists, curators, writers, academics, collectors and innovators to Verbier. Over a long weekend of dialogue, new visions and initiatives will be developed around the **Quarter Life Crisis** in which we find ourselves. The Summit **Talks programme** can be attended on-site in Verbier, and online via live-broadcasting on the virtual platform. The programme will also include several art experiences, providing both a local as well as an international insight into the art world. Additionally, the invited Summit speakers and members also participate in an extended **Debating programme** to generate innovative ideas that will drive social change.

As the Summit aims to inspire people globally, the conversation will continue through the Summit publication series designed by Irma Boom and made available in art museum shops via Koenig Books.

Details on the 2025 Summit, including a new group of speakers, will be announced over the coming months and registrations will open in 2025. For more information, please visit [verbierartsummit.org](http://verbierartsummit.org) or follow us on: [Instagram](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#) / [#verbierartsummit](#)

### **About Philip Tinari**

Philip Tinari is Director and Chief Executive of UCCA Center for Contemporary. Since 2011, he has led its transformation from a founder-driven private museum into China's leading independent contemporary art institution, presenting a wide range of exhibitions and programs to more than one million annual visitors across four venues in Beijing, Shanghai, Beidaihe and Yixing. His award-winning program has included more than 120 exhibitions of artists ranging from Cao Fei and Xu Bing to Rauschenberg and Picasso, putting the contemporary art of China into global context and vice versa.

Tinari is a widely recognised writer and curator. He was co-curator of the 2017 exhibition *Art and China after 1989: Theater of the World* at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Guggenheim Bilbao, and SFMOMA, and curator of the 2016 exhibition *Bentu: Chinese Artists in a Time of Turbulence and Transformation* at Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris. In 2021 he curated *Feeling the Stones*, the inaugural edition of the Diriyah Contemporary Art Biennale in Riyadh and then the largest contemporary art exhibition to date in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. From 2009 to 2012, he founded and edited *LEAP*, the first internationally distributed, bilingual contemporary art magazine in China. He was also the founding editor of the Chinese edition of *Artforum* in 2008. He has been named a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum and a fellow of the Public Intellectuals Program of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. Born near Philadelphia and based in Beijing, Tinari was a Fulbright scholar at Peking University, and holds degrees from Duke and Harvard.

### **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 in 2013, 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 the curatorial team at the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam. Thereafter, the Summit has partnered with Daniel Birnbaum, then director of Moderna Museet Stockholm, *More than Real. Art in the Digital Age (2018)*, with Jochen Volz, museum director of Pinacoteca de São Paulo, *We are Many. Art, the Political and Multiple Truths (2019)*, and with Jessica Morgan *Resource Hungry: Our Cultured Landscape and its Ecological Impact (2020 and digitally in 2021 & 2022)*.

Sijbrandij is responsible for strengthening and activating the platform, and works closely with the partnering museum director to curate the theme, invite the speakers and achieve more impact with each Summit edition.

### **For press inquiries or any further questions, please contact:**

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