

Press Release – Announcement 2025 Verbier Art Summit

Verbier, Switzerland, 26 November 2024 – The Verbier Art Summit is excited to unveil details about its upcoming edition, scheduled for **4 & 5 April 2025** at the W Hotel in Verbier, Switzerland. The 2025 Summit, in partnership with **Philip Tinari**, director of the UCCA Center for Contemporary Art in China, will explore the pressing theme:

QUARTER LIFE CRISIS Art in a World on the Brink

The 2025 Summit will ask how art can respond to a world on the brink, marked by rapid digital transformation, shifting geopolitical tensions and evolving identities. Tinari reflects on this year's theme, saying, "Meanwhile, we have watched, posted, and streamed, as digital acceleration has wrought iterative transformation. Successive technologies gave rise to micro-generations, each with its unique affect and subjectivity."

As global complexities deepen, the Summit invites artists, thinkers, and innovators from various disciplines to reimagine art's role in shaping cultural resilience and understanding. Among these speakers are artists Zanele Muholi, Claudia Comte and writer Kyle Chayka.



South African visual activist **Zanele Muholi** is among the most acclaimed contemporary photographers. Since the early 2000s, Muholi has documented and celebrated Black queer identity and explored the politics of inhabiting a Black body, inspiring reflections on identity and its multiplicities. The renowned Swiss artist **Claudia Comte** returns to Verbier after her digital participation in 2021. Comte's work focuses on the natural world and explores the evolving relationship between the human hand and digital methods, providing a powerful metaphor for broader societal shifts. Delving even deeper into the digital realm, is the American cultural critic and The New Yorker writer **Kyle Chayka**, who will bring his insights on the impact of platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and Spotify on our social ecosystem. Chayka's recent book, *Filterworld* (2024), provides a fresh perspective on how algorithms shape public consciousness, transforming our culture both online and in the real world.

2025 Programme

The 2025 Verbier Art Summit will offer a unique space for artists and cultural leaders to explore, question, and respond to today's profound shifts. The event includes two days of talks, debates and cultural events, beginning at 9:30 CET on Friday 4 April, and concluding at 18:00 CET on Saturday 5 April. The **Talks programme** will present the ideas of the Summit's speakers via 20-minute presentations, with free public access for all interested, both in-person in Verbier as well as online. In addition, cultural activities can be experienced all around Verbier, providing both a local as well as an international insight into the art world. Alongside, the Summit organises a **Debating programme**, by invitation only, which aims to generate innovative ideas that will drive social change.

Public registration for the 2025 Summit will open in January 2025. Art enthusiasts, artists, curators and other cultural professionals will be welcomed to secure their spot for what promises to be an insightful weekend of dialogue and discovery. Invitations to the Debating programme will go out before the end of the year.

To learn more about the 2025 Summit, please join Philip Tinari and Summit Founder, Anneliek Sijbrandij, at a conversation during Art Genève on 30 January 2025 at 15:00 CET. This session will be an opportunity to meet Tinari and delve into the key questions the 2025 Summit will address, setting the stage for April. The 13th edition of Art Genève will be held at Palexpo in Geneva Switzerland, from Thursday 30 January to Sunday 2 February 2025.

About the Summit

The Summit is a non-profit platform that fosters collaboration, pushing boundaries to create new visions in a world on the brink of significant change. To inspire people globally, the Summit will be livestreamed via a virtual platform, and key conversations will be documented in a publication series designed by Irma Boom, available through Koenig Books.

For more details on the 2025 Summit, including speaker updates and registration, please visit verbierartsummit.org or follow us on Instagram, X, and Facebook using #verbierartsummit.

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