

## Press Release – Announcement 2020 Verbier Art Summit

**Verbier, Switzerland, July 2019** – The Verbier Art Summit is proud to announce its 2020 theme and partnership with Jessica Morgan, Nathalie de Gunzburg Director of New York’s Dia Art Foundation. The fourth edition of the Summit will take place on 31 January – 1 February 2020 in Verbier, Switzerland, and will be curated by Jessica Morgan around the theme:

### **RESOURCE HUNGRY *OUR CULTURED LANDSCAPE AND ITS ECOLOGICAL IMPACT***

“The history of culture has been a history of marking the landscape” states Jessica Morgan. Through Land art projects and the expanding art institution, the cultural field has acted as witness—and often contributor to—our ecological crisis. While bold structures are erected as monuments to culture, the impact on their surrounding ecologies has only been considered secondarily. Today, we are confronted with urgent questions around the creation of these structures within the fields of art, design, architecture and engineering. The 2020 Verbier Art Summit will bring together leading thinkers to ask how we can envision a way forward in finding harmony between art, ecology and resources.



Jessica Morgan, Nathalie de Gunzburg Director of the Dia Art Foundation in NY and 2020 partnering museum director of the Verbier Art Summit. Photo by Gabriela Herman.

Jessica Morgan writes in the 2019 Summit publication on her curatorial direction for the annual gathering:

“At the 2020 Verbier Art Summit, it seems timely—if not urgent—to confront the human remaking of the environment as acts of claiming authority, and to explore new paths forward in our current societal condition: resource hungry.”

Jessica Morgan and the Verbier Art Summit will welcome artists, curators, academics and leading innovators to Verbier, Switzerland for a weekend of dialogue, in order to create new visions in the art world around this theme.

### **About the Summit**

The Verbier Art Summit is an international platform for discourse in a non-transactional context. The non-profit Summit connects thought leaders to key figures in the art world to generate innovative ideas and drive social change.

The Verbier Art Summit provides a two-day talks programme which can be attended on-site in Verbier and online via live-broadcasting. The Summit speakers and members participate in an extended debating programme to generate further initiatives and visions in relation to the topic. Follow us for updates on the 2020 Summit speakers and programme: [verbierartsummit.org](http://verbierartsummit.org)

### **About Jessica Morgan**

Jessica Morgan joined Dia Art Foundation as Director in January 2015 and was named Nathalie de Gunzburg Director in October 2017. At Dia, Morgan is responsible for strengthening and activating all parts of Dia's multivalent program, including its pioneering Land art projects, site-specific commissions, and collections and programming across its constellation of sites. Since Morgan's arrival at Dia, the foundation has grown and diversified its collection to include significant works by Mary Corse, Nancy Holt, Robert Morris, Dorothea Rockburne, Kishio Suga, Anne Truitt, and Lee Ufan among others.

Alongside an expanded exhibition program, Morgan has continued Dia's commitment to site-specific commissions, facilitating major new work by artists including Isabel Lewis, Rita McBride and Joëlle Tuerlinckx, and in 2015 realizing the first Dia commission outside the continental United States since 1982 with Allora & Calzadilla's *Puerto Rican Light (Cueva Vientos)*, situated in Puerto Rico. In 2018, Morgan announced a comprehensive, multi-year campaign, that includes the upgrade, revitalization, and ongoing stewardship of Dia's key programmatic spaces and artist sites.

### **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, 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 21<sup>st</sup> Century Art Museum*, curated by Beatrix Ruf and her curatorial team at the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam. Then the Summit has partnered with Daniel Birnbaum, director of Moderna Museet Stockholm, *More than Real. Art in the Digital Age* and with Jochen Volz, museum director of Pinacoteca de São Paulo, *We are Many. Art, the Political and Multiple Truths*. Under the themes chosen by these directors, the Verbier Art Summit attracted thought leaders such as architect Rem Koolhaas; curators Michelle Kuo, Karen Archey and Gabi Ngcobo; writers/researchers Federico Campagna, Cissie Fu and Boaventura de Sousa Santos; artists Tino Seghal, Ernesto Neto, Grada Kilomba, Olafur Eliasson, Anicka Yi, Ed Atkins, Tania Bruguera and Rirkrit Tiravanija.

Anneliek Sijbrandij is the Managing Director of the Summit team, ensuring the international platform remains completely not for profit and continues to act as a catalyst for innovation and change.

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

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