

Media release

Basel, February 12, 2021

Dorian Sari
Post-Truth (Manor Art Prize 2021)

February 13–May 24, 2021, Kunstmuseum Basel | Gegenwart

Curators: Philipp Selzer with Sarah Wiesendanger and Eva Falge

The Kunstmuseum Basel | Gegenwart presents *Post-Truth*, a solo exhibition by Dorian Sari (b. Izmir, Turkey, 1989; lives and works in Basel), the winner of this year's Manor Art Prize.

Post-Truth features new videos and sculptures by Dorian Sari in two galleries at the Kunstmuseum Basel | Gegenwart and in the brook that flows between the two buildings of the museum. The exhibition's title quotes an adjective that was declared word of the year in 2016 by the Oxford Dictionary. *Post-truth* was defined as an adjective "relating to circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief." The term is widely used in the political and societal context to describe the processes generating popular sentiments that paved the way for, say, the Brexit vote or the election of Donald Trump.

As Dorian Sari sees it, the concept of *post-truth* encapsulates a broad range of central concerns in today's debates. The artist inquires into the development that has led to the debasement of scientifically established facts and analyses. Their authority has given way to a sense of collective and individual uncertainty that has taken hold despite, or precisely because of, the universal accessibility and sheer volume of information available today. The norm of truthfulness as an ethical standard is in crisis. People are often looking not so much for truths that will allow them to arrive at reasoned conclusions than for confirmation of existing interests and convictions driven by heterogeneous political and economic motives.

Dorian Sari's exhibition examines empirical as well as artistic facets of *post-truth*. Portraying a state of affairs that prompts emotions of bewilderment and radical dissociation and calls our personal systems of trust in question, it illustrates how that state serves to negotiate social change or fuel polarization. A video installation and several sculptural pieces reflect Sari's preoccupation with these pressing contemporary issues, which are also explored in depth in an artist's publication containing writings by the artist, to be released in conjunction with the exhibition.

Dorian Sari studied in Geneva, Naples, and Paris and completed his MA at the Institute of Art of the FHNW Academy of Art and Design, Basel, in 2019.

First awarded in 1982, the Manor Art Prize promotes young visual artists working in Switzerland. It is considered one of the most important awards for emerging contemporary artists in Switzerland.

The exhibition is supported by:
Manor
SAHA Association

Imagery and information on the exhibition

www.kunstmuseumbasel.ch/medien

Media contact

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Dorian Sari. Post-Truth Digital Programme

Live Tours on Facebook with Dorian Sari (in English)

Monday 15/22 February, 1 March, 5–5.20pm

Live Tours on Instagram with Dorian Sari (in English)

Wednesday 17/24 February, 3 March, 11–11.15am

Public Tour via Zoom with art mediator Aïcha Revellat (in German)

Thursday 18 February, 5–6pm

Costs: CHF 5

#thisistalking

In the participatory project #thisistalking, Dorian Sari invites the world to place their messages on the LED frieze at the Kunstmuseum Basel | Neubau.

Every week from mid-February to mid-March, he will select 3 to 5 sentences from the community's submissions. These will be displayed on the LED Frieze from Thursday to Sunday. At the weekend, a winner will be chosen from these sentences by the followers on social media. This winner will receive a small sculpture as a gift from Dorian Sari.

If you also want to participate, please send your message to pressoffice@kunstmuseumbasel.ch.

More info: www.kunstmuseumbasel.ch/en/agenda/themes/thisistalking

Archive of Emotions

10-part series of video conversations between Dorian Sari and guests.

The one-hour conversations will be recorded and published on the Kunstmuseum Basel website from March.

Guests: Övül Durmusoglu, Latifa Echakhch, Ines Goldbach, Sophie Jung, PRICE, Hannah Weinberger, Maja Wismer and others.

With support by the Christoph Merian Foundation.

More info: www.kunstmuseumbasel.ch/de/programm/themen/archiveofemotions

Publication

The exhibition publication will be available free of charge to visitors to the exhibition from 1 March. If the museum is closed, the book can be collected from a cupboard in front of the Kunstmuseum Basel | Gegenwart or the PDF of the book will be available for download on the website.

The book will also be available in our online shop for a small fee.

Edition of the publication

The artist creates a personalised edition with handwritten texts based on a personal conversation with the buyer.

The edition of 20 copies (+ 5 AP) is available in the shop for CHF 350/piece.