

CRITICAL URBANISMS + AA VISITING SCHOOL BASEL

The Materiality of Art Fairs: Art Basel

Seminars / Field Trips / Workshops / Guest Speakers / Exhibitions

Team

Fabrizio Furiassi, Programme Head
Mariana Santana, Programme Head
Michelle Bernet, Teaching Assistant
Clara Louise Alder Juul, Teaching Assistant

with tutors

Aleksandra Budaeva (TU Wien)
Stanislava Predojević (Basel City Planning Department)
Ekaterina Wittwer-Nuzhdina (Herzog & de Meuron)

and critics and speakers

Lisa Böffgen (Video Artist)
Patrick Döblin (Bern University of Applied Sciences)
Ciro Miguel (ETH Zurich)
Giuseppe Ricupero (IUAV)
Cassim Shepard (CCNY)
and many more

Summer School, 17-27 June 2025

Open to current university students, recent graduates, and young professionals
in architecture, urbanism, design, arts and allied fields



One of the major commonalities of international art fairs like Art Basel, Frieze London, and The Armory Show in New York, is the gigantic mobilization of materials and bodies that, from disparate parts of the globe, travel to aggregate in one place (for a week or so) before moving on to a new destination. It is an endless cycle of assembling and disassembling the material and the social components that constitute them. Through the lens of materiality through which these events unfold, this summer school will take a critical look at world fairs, expos, biennials and triennials, and the works of artists, architects, urbanists, curators, and institutions involved in them. On the occasion of Art Basel 2025, the programme will provide students with visitor passes and guided tours of the exhibitions and will ask them to identify and record under-observed social and urban phenomena linked to the fair. Afterwards, the students will be challenged to critically describe the art fairs through research-based films focusing on material artifacts that constitute them—from artworks to publications, exhibition spaces, museum buildings, and the cities that host them. These films will be presented across three exhibition spaces in Basel, forming an alternative Art Basel Parcours.



University
of Basel

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
VISITING SCHOOL

Critical
Urbanisms

