

BERLIN · PARIS

## Galerie Bastian with a new location in Paris

Galerie Bastian has been representing important contemporary artists for almost four decades. What began with its founder Heiner Bastian (\*1942) at the end of the 1980s continues to this day through his son Aeneas Bastian (\*1975). He is currently opening a new gallery location in Paris. After the recent experience of a gallery branch in London from 2019 to 2022, Galerie Bastian is now relocating its foreign activities to the Seine due to the effects of the location on the Thames after Brexit and sees itself as having arrived in the new center for contemporary art in Europe.

With the opening in the Marais district, the gallery is realigning itself. At the same time, it is responding to the current requirements of international competition, without renouncing its orientation towards the standards of art history.

The gallery's first exhibition, **"The Magnificent Seven"**, is therefore also dedicated to the new additions to its portfolio. With a strong block of important positions in international contemporary art, Bastian presents outstanding female positions such as **Ingeborg Lüscher, Elfie Semotan**, **Xenia Hausner, Valérie Favre, Sandra Vásquez de la Horra, Simone Haack, Liliane Tomasko and Cristina Lucas.** 

With curatorial support, it reminds us that it is primarily women artists who redefine the art world and the discourse in art with visionary power. And so the theme that gave the exhibition its title, when "The Magnificent Seven" appeared on the canvas in 1960, is also the swan song to a heroism that is firmly in the hands of men, which the artists approach in different ways in eight solitary positions.

Their works question power structures, play with identity or deconstruct prevailing narratives. They work figuratively or abstractly, narratively or conceptually, politically or introspectively. With around **40 international museum exhibitions** this year, the female artists shown here, aged between 48 and 88, dominate the new canon in international institutions.

In its current activities, Galerie Bastian is thus building on its historical development. While it was initially non-commercial projects for the artist Joseph Beuys, it was also Beuys who once encouraged his private secretary Heiner Bastian to found his gallery. A few years after the death of his friend Beuys in 1986, Bastian took up the gallery's activities in order to preserve the memory of Joseph Beuys.

While Heiner Bastian was responsible for many events and internationally significant exhibitions during Joseph Beuys' lifetime, the gallery continued to build on this tradition with regular Beuys exhibitions with numerous important publications and institutional exhibitions on the artist's oeuvre to this day.



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While his father expanded his gallery portfolio in Europe and the USA right from the start through numerous friendships with artists such as **Anselm Kiefer, Cy Twombly, Robert Rauschenberg, Jeff Koons** and **Andy Warhol**, Aeneas Bastian was already involved in his father's residencies as a child. As a child of eight, he already enjoyed the proximity to these artists, who still enrich the gallery's program today, through numerous studio stays with Rauschenberg in Florida, conversations about art with Twombly in his home in Rome, flying visits to Warhol's Factory in New York, but also the help of Beuys with his Latin homework for school.

Over the years, Galerie Bastian has published almost **200 exhibition catalogs, monographs and catalogs raisonnés**. Today, along with the world's largest gallery, Gagosian, it is the only gallery that has the privilege of collaborating in the primary market with the estate of Cy Twombly. Similarly, it maintains collaborations with the foundations of the estates of **Robert Rauschenberg, Andy Warhol** and **Emil Nolde**. Galerie Bastian is currently presenting its artist **Anselm Kiefer in dialog with Nolde** at his place of residence and work in an institutional exhibition in **Seebüll**.

Galerie Bastian also gained its international reputation through regular presentations of works from modernism to postwar. These include Sonja Delaunay-Terk, Pablo Picasso, Jean Dubuffet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Max Liebermann.

To lead the Paris gallery, Santiago Rumney-Guggenheim joins the team. Active in the art world for over 15 years, he has worked with galleries, institutions, auction houses, and private collections across Europe and the United States. Drawing on experience that combines curatorial work, cultural programming, and advisory, he will develop the program of Bastian Paris just steps away from the Picasso Museum.

"We are aware of our responsibility towards art history. Artists have always been seismographs of their time. In socially, politically and economically fragile times, it is equally important to offer art a forum to gain insight into the controversial issues of our time. International discourse has always been important to us, which not only takes us to studios, institutions and art fairs, but also allows us to play a decisive role in shaping the French art metropolis," said Aeneas Bastian on the occasion of the gallery opening in Paris.

Over the years, Galerie Bastian has developed a close working relationship with international art fairs such as Frieze, Art Basel and Tefaf. The gallery's headquarters is the pavilion of the important British architect John Pawson, who also enriches the gallery portfolio as an artist.