

Swab Barcelona Art Fair

SWAB 2019 reflects on the role of art in the face of socio-political challenges at an edition that you can visit online for the first time through Artsy

The twelfth edition of the Barcelona Contemporary Art Fair will take place from 26th to 29th September in the Pabellón Italiano in the Fira Montjuïc, and will bring together around 300 artists and 75 galleries from all around the world



Barcelona, 9th de September-. A few weeks ago **SWAB** the Barcelona fair of contemporary art announced that its twelfth edition would take place from **26th** to **29th September** in the **Pabellón Italiano de la Fira Montjuïc**, as well as the programme for this 2019 edition. For yet another year, Swab will be the meeting place for around 300 artists from 75 galleries around the world. An unmissable event for the world of international independent art.

The transgressive nature of Swab is reflected in a programme that is committed to reflecting social problems and international policies through its proposals. All the disciplines, from the classical ones such as painting and sculpture to the more contemporary ones such as digital, performance or installation art, are used by the artist to channel and connect to the spectator. This year the majority of the works revolve around the search for and return to the roots, in a path that goes from the primitive to the digital.



Satélite Gallery, Querétaro. México en Femenino. Artist: Berta Kolteniuk.

This year, the SWAB 2019 programme includes new sections. The introduction, For the first time, of the programme **México en Femenino**, that backs four artists who work around the female figure, rethinking and reclaiming their position through burning issues such as colonialism and its participation in art. Also '**Swab Video Box, The identity Shadow**' will be introduced, a space that is exclusively dedicated to artistic exploration through video art, in collaboration with Aesthetica Magazine, in which they generate interesting reflections on the tensions that arise in human relationships.

Without a doubt, one of the strong points of this year's edition is the possibility of visiting the fair in real time online, as well as being able to purchase works from the stands, thanks to the prestigious platform **ARTSY**.

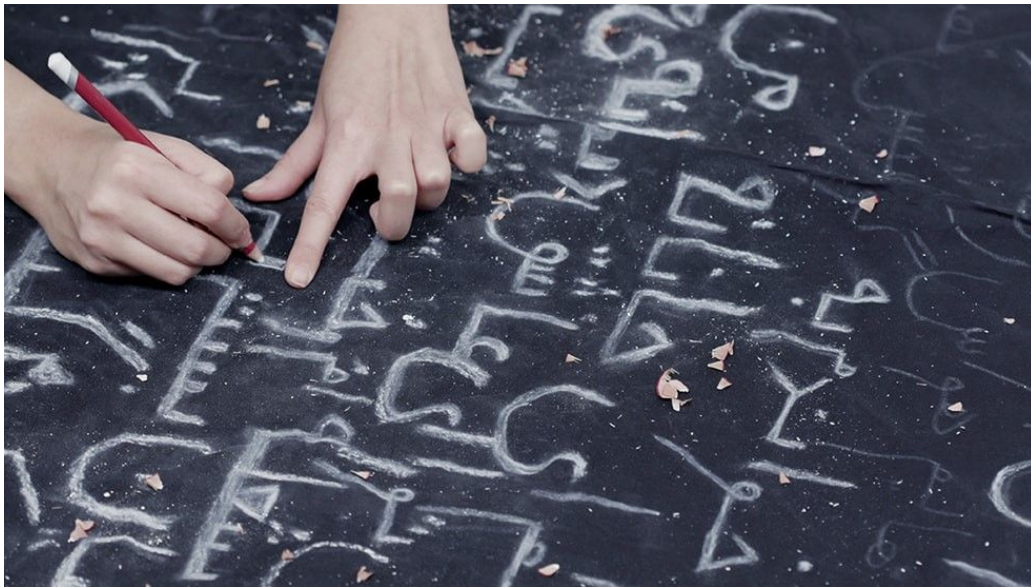
As well as these novelties, there will also of course be the usual programmes such as the **General**, that for the first time includes the subsection "**Emerging**", in which we will find



AWOL Gallery - Swab Seed -

galleries that have participated in fairs but have existed for a maximum of five years. For yet another year, reference galleries from the city such as **ADN Galería**, **Ana Mas Projects** and **Rocío Santa Cruz**, amongst others will be there.

Other programmes that are happening again this year are **Swab on Paper**, curated by Carolina Díez-Cascón, that exhibits the work of several artists who make use of geometry and abstraction as a means of expressing unstable and unbalanced space; **Swab Ephemeral**, curated by Caterina Almirall supports the creative fabric of the city with proposals by artists who are residents in art factories of Barcelona (Hangar, La Escocesa and Fabra i Coats); **MYFAF**, that this year increases from 3 to 4 galleries; **Swab Reading**, the space dedicated to exploring the world of publishing as an artistic medium and the book as a piece of art and **Swab Seed** a programme for independent spaces that are on the cutting-edge of the art scene with, for example, the Galería AWOL, that will transport the spectator to Mars and will invite them to consider the possibility of creating a new universe.



I have Sinned a Rapturous Sin, Maryam Tafakory. Video Box

Of course there will also be key contemporary performance art pieces in the **Swab Performance** programme curated by Alexandra Laudo that at this edition focuses on digital art. Finally, the programme will be closed by a cycle of talks mediated by **SWAB Thinks**, amongst which it is worth highlighting that by the **Fundación Josep Santa Creu**, which aims to give visibility to artistic talent of people with functional diversity, mental health issues or at risk of exclusion; the centre **Espronceda**, takes a new look at the figure of curator bringing a new dimension to their work, and the consideration of women in the world of art.

SWAB Barcelona is not solely aiming to be an important platform for innovative aesthetic experiences, but also to introduce audiences to works that use art as a tool to build new and necessary reflections and to create different exhibiting experiences with interesting proposals by artists who care about the direct relationship between the work of art and the spectator.



Galería The Switch. Artista; Hugo Cantegrel. Emerging

As every year, **SWAB Kids** will be the space dedicated to the children's audience, a place where creativity has no limits. This year it will host an artistic proposal that stimulates the senses in collaboration with the **Fundación Ernesto Ventós**.

SWAB 2019 will welcome its twelfth edition with an Opening Party sponsored by **Julius Bär** kicking off the week of art with an invitation to an event created exclusively by the artist **Emili Garcia**. Each invitation will be numbered, as if it were a print, thus creating an experiential art party.

Collectors programme

With the participation of a large number of international collectors, this programme aims to consolidate the city of Barcelona as an artistic platform of reference. This year there will be exclusive visits to the private collections of the city and there will be collaborations with Fundació Tàpies, Mies Van der Rohe Foundation and the Reial Cercle d'Arts in Barcelona.

SWAB Awards

Like every year, SWAB presents a series of awards to assess talent from different perspectives. At this 2019 edition, there will be the DKV award for the best Spanish artist, the MANGO award for the best emerging artist, the Lluís Coromina Foundation, the Idea Art of Maset and the drawing Diezy7 Collection. In addition, this year there will be the new Espronceda prize, which will reward an artist with a 5-week residency in the Espronceda gallery. The aim of the award is to open a dialogue with the city: the artist will have the opportunity to fully immerse themselves in the circuits of Barcelona, where they can be inspired by the place and spaces of Espronceda to carry out their artistic research.

Acquisitions programme

- As usual, Swab will present an acquisitions programme in collaboration with: Fundació Vila Casas, a private non-profit organization whose main objective is to promote contemporary Catalan art.
- La Colección Olor Visual, created by Ernesto Ventós, perfumer who later took the path of artistic creation.
- La Fundació Carmen & Lluís Bassat, set up by the publicist Lluís Bassat with the aim of helping people in need and promoting contemporary Catalan art.

SWAB, a sustainable fair

Swab 2019 has built this year's edition around certain fundamental values, sustainability, design and a balance between innovation and tradition.

So, the gastronomic space of the fair will feature **Flash Flash**, a well-established Barcelona restaurant with 50 years of experience, of history, of design, of trend-setting and of doing things as they should be done. **Cervezas Tibidabo**, who will present their Barcelona-brewed craft beer and **Bruxo**, a mescal made by balancing the long tradition of this drink with innovative elements. In addition to offering outstanding products, the three houses will eliminate the use of plastic, promoting environmental awareness. To this end, the official water of Swab 2019 is **Only Water**, which brings to the fair its 100% recyclable packaging made from renewable raw materials.

The Swab philosophy is also reflected in the furniture, as this year the fair will welcome three proposals which combine design and sustainability: **CartonLab**, who work with cardboard furniture and **Ecopixel**, who produce pieces of furniture with recycled plastic.



Ecopixel

SWAB 2019 PROGRAMMES [+ further info in each link]

- [VÍdeo Box](#)
- [Ephemeral](#)
- [Swab Performance](#)
- [Swab Thinks](#)
- [Swab Reading](#)
- [General Programme](#)
- [México en Femenino](#)
- [Swab On paper](#)
- [Exhibitors](#)

- **What:** SWAB.
- **When:** 26th-29th September.
- **Where:** Pavellón Italiano (Z6). Feria Barcelona (Plaça de Carles Buïgas, 8).
- **FB/IG:** [@swabartfair](#).

Press Contact

Ariana Díaz - ariana@good2b.es

Ainhoa Gurruchaga - ainhoa@good2b.es

You can find additional informatio [HERE](#)



ARTFORUM

ART
FACTS
.NET

artprice
com

Vellum
VellumArtzine.com

Aesthetica

Art Super
Platform for Contemporary Art

cartonlab

ecopixel
sustainable materials
never refuse to reuse
ecopixel.eu

ecopixel®

MUJI
無印良品

B
Barcelona
Global

UNIVERSITY OF
VALENCIA
1962

CUATRECASAS

SiR
VICTOR

NIAL
CONSEJO REGULADOR DE VINOS DE ESPAÑA

AV-SERVICES
SOL

VisualSign
ROTULACIÓN Y ORGANIZACIÓN VISUAL

FLASH
FLASH

CulturaMezcal

TIBIDABO BREWING

BOCA
GRANDE

GIN MG

ENATE

NNZD