

SciArt Switzerland
Friday, 10 November 2023 at 6.30 p.m.
Free entry
In English with simultaneous interpreting in Italian

MASI Lugano
LAC Exhibition
Venue, Hall
Piazza Luini 6 Lugano

Uriel Orlow “Learning from Plants”

Press release

IBSA Foundation for scientific research and MASI present **Uriel Orlow** (Zürich, 1973) for **SciArt SwitzerlAnd**'s autumn event taking place on **Friday, 10 November at 6.30 p.m. at MASI Lugano's LAC venue**. The Swiss artist will be speaking about his connection with science in conversation with **Giovanni Carmine**, director of the **Kunsthalle Sankt Gallen** museum and curator of the **Unlimited** section for the Art Basel fair.

Through means such as video, photography, drawing, sound and installation, Orlow creates a multimedia universe where **botany often takes centre stage**.

His work is process-oriented and based on in-depth research, often developed by the artist **in dialogue** with other disciplines and people. Working slowly, over extensive periods, Orlow succeeds in exploring new perspectives and approaches to **understanding ecosystems, territory and history**. In his most recent research, the artist has focused in particular on the study of plants, which he sees as genuine and active **witnesses to Europe's colonial history and climate change** and, more generally, as bearers of a deep-rooted memory. Using a “plant” perspective as his starting point, Orlow maps out a tight network of more-than-human entanglements that shine a light on the **complex relationships between plants and history**. By unveiling often overlooked aspects, the artist offers an **innovative perspective** on the link between the environment and humanity.

Uriel Orlow

Orlow (1973) lives between Lisbon, London and Zürich. He was awarded the prestigious Swiss Grand Award for Art/Prix Meret Oppenheim in 2023. His most important and recent one-person exhibitions include collaborations with Casa da Cerca, Almada (2022-2023); Kunsthalle Nairs, Scuol (2021); La Loge, Brussels; State of Concept, Athens (2020); Kunsthalle Mainz (2019-2020); Tabakalera, San Sebastian; Villa Romana, Florence (2019); Kunsthalle St. Gallen; Market Photo Workshop, Johannesburg; Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers, Paris (2018); PAV, Turin (2017); The Showroom, London (2016); and Castello di Rivoli, Turin (2015). Uriel Orlow's art has been shown at numerous international exhibitions, such as the 54th Venice Biennale, Manifesta 9 and 12, and the biennials of Berlin, Dakar, Taipei, Sharjah, Moscow, Kathmandu and Guatemala, to name but a few. His works have recently been exhibited at the Aargauer Kunsthhaus in Aarau, Kunsthaus Zürich, the Tate, Whitechapel Gallery and the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London, and the Palais de Tokyo in Paris.

Giovanni Carmine

Giovanni Carmine has been director of the Kunsthalle Sankt Gallen since 2007, where he has curated exhibitions by David Lamelas, Ryan Gander, Mariana Castillo Deball, Hassan Khan, Petrit Halilaj, Sylvia Sleigh, Dani Gal, Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Jill Magid, Andrea Büttner, and Eric Baudelaire, among others, as well as the group exhibition *The Darknet*. In 2011, he was artistic coordinator of *ILLUMInations* — the 54th Venice Biennale — and co-editor of the Biennale catalogue. Then, in 2013, he and Valentin Carron curated the Swiss Pavilion for the same Biennale. Carmine has contributed to various magazines (*Kunst-Bulletin*, *Frieze*, *Art-Review*, *Parkett*), published catalogues and edited a number of publications, such as *PSYOP Post 9/11 Leaflets* and *CEAU* (both with Christoph Büchel). He was president of the Swiss Federal Art Commission (2017-2019) and is a member of the board of directors of the Istituto Svizzero (Swiss Institute) in Rome. He is the curator of Art Basel Unlimited and currently lives and works between Zürich and St. Gallen.

What is SciArt SwitzerlAnd?

SciArt SwitzerlAnd is a project by IBSA Foundation for scientific research, in partnership with the LAC cultural centre (Lugano Arte e Cultura) and Lugano's MASI museum (Museo d'arte della Svizzera italiana [Museum of Art of Italian Switzerland]).

Science and the arts have always coexisted through time and space. Albeit with different methods and for different purposes, artists and scientists both observe the world around them and open up new perspectives, interpretations and meanings for us to explore.

Using different event formats and digital products, SciArt SwitzerlAnd intends to focus on artistic creations that have been transformed as a result of interactions with scientists, new discoveries and research institutions.

The public will be offered a look at fascinating projects, the products of different dimensions intersecting, and will be able to listen to the voices of artists and scientists explaining the extent to which spheres that are so different can mutually influence one another.

The new project is perfectly aligned with the mission of the Foundation, which has been committed since 2012 to disseminating scientific culture that is trustworthy, sharing principles and knowledge using language that is accessible, and raising awareness of topics relating to science and culture as well as to personal health and well-being.

IBSA Foundation for scientific research

IBSA Foundation for scientific research was established in 2012 in Lugano. It is the main promoter of IBSA Group's social responsibility activities. IBSA Foundation supports scientific research and fosters its dissemination through education, art and science, and culture and health. Its vision is to go beyond care, fully aware of the importance of the benefits of combining participation in cultural activities with care pathways.

Its mission is to promote an authoritative and accessible scientific culture through dissemination, by being part of an international scientific network and supporting research. IBSA Foundation's various initiatives include sponsoring first-class forums with world-renowned scientists and scholarships in different fields of basic and clinical research.

IBSA Foundation has been the scientific research partner of the Museo d'arte della Svizzera italiana since 2017.

MASI Lugano

MASI Lugano, the Museo d'arte della Svizzera italiana, is a cultural bridge between the north and south of the Alps. It offers a packed programme of exhibitions and in-depth events.

Press images

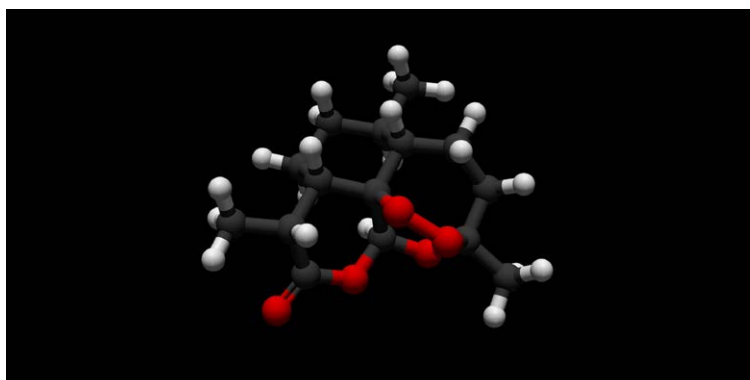


Uriel Orlow

Learning from Artemisia,
2019-2020

Installation and garden in Lubumbashi, DRC, 2019. Photo: Alain Nsenga

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Uriel Orlow

Learning from Artemisia,
2019

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Immagini stampa



Uriel Orlow

Up, Up, Up,
2021

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Uriel Orlow

Piz Linard (1835-2011)
2021

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Details

Friday, 10 November 2023
at 6.30 p.m., LAC Lugano, Hall

Free event

The conversation will be held in English with simultaneous interpreting in Italian.

Booking allows you to reserve a seat but is not mandatory for admission to the event.

A complimentary aperitif will be offered to all participants.

Press contacts

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