

2021 | VIRTUAL VERBIER ART SUMMIT

The Verbier Art Summit is an interdisciplinary platform for **innovation** and **change**.

From 29 to 30 January 2021, the Summit will celebrate its fifth edition continuing around the important theme:

RESOURCE HUNGRY Our Cultured Landscape and its Ecological Impact

The virtual Verbier Art Summit—taking place concurrently with the annual in-person Summit in Verbier, Switzerland—will consist of a two-day free, digital programme, welcoming all those with a love for art, innovation and ecology to participate.

As part of this expanded digital offering and in celebration of the Summit's fifth anniversary, five new **DEBATES** from all over the world will deepen the *Resource Hungry* discussion started at the 2020 Summit earlier this year, presented bilingually in English and French. New and existing **TALKS** by Summit speakers such as Olafur Eliasson, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Joan Jonas and Claudia Comte will focus on knowledge sharing around the social issues discussed at the previous Summits: **(de)Growth (2017), the Digital Age (2018), Multiple Truths (2019) and Ecology (2020)**. The 2021 Summit will give voice to artists, thinkers, activists, and especially young change-makers who are demanding a new way forward. The Summit will be both in-person and virtual, connecting artists and thinkers from all over the world.

Jessica Morgan, the Summit's 2020 partnering museum director, reflects back on the theme **Resource Hungry**, stating: "It took a virus to halt aspects of our culture that were destroying the environment. Now is the moment to reflect on how we can evolve in response to the questions posed at the 2020 Verbier Art Summit:

- *Can we learn from the light touch and holistic thinking of indigenous cultures that have cared for the land for generations?*
- *Can we reassess the spaces, habits, structures, and systems of culture to find new ways to operate and new ways to experience?*
- *Can we rethink our values?"*



2020 Verbier Art Summit speakers and Principal Members Dakis & Lietta Joannou with Summit Founder Anneliek Sijbrandij. From left to right: Dorothea von Hantelmann, Jessica Morgan, Roberto Feo, Rosario Hurtado, Dakis Joannou, Anneliek Sijbrandij, Adrian Lahoud, Andrea Bowers, Djamilia Ribeiro and Lietta Joannou. Photos by Alpimages.

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The virtual Summit will also showcase **ART AND ECOLOGICAL INSPIRATION** by the Summit partners and international Members: art works, talks, performances, podcasts, books and workshops. The aim is to encourage all participants to take **ACTION**: “Repair our relationship to the land, by shifting away from endless resource extraction” and “begin to repair our relationships with one another in the process”, as the Canadian author Naomi Klein described so powerfully in her book *On Fire. The Burning Case for a Green New Deal* (2019).



Left: Olafur Eliasson at the 2018 Summit. Photo by Frederik Jacobovits.
Right: Rirkrit Tiravanija at the 2019 Summit. Photo by Alpimages.

About the Verbier Art Summit

The Verbier Art Summit is an international platform for discourse in a non-transactional context. The non-profit Summit connects thought leaders to key figures in the art world to generate innovative ideas and drive social change. To expand the conversation into a global dialogue, the speakers contribute to the Summit publication series, available online and in art bookshops worldwide.

For more information on the 2021 Summit, please visit verbierartsummit.org or follow us: Instagram @verbierartsummit | Twitter @verbierartnow | Facebook Verbier Art Summit

For press enquiries or any further questions, please contact:

Rhiannon Pickles at Pickles PR | rhiannon@picklespr.com | +31 61 582 12 02
Caroline Widmer at Pickles PR | caroline@picklespr.com | +44 79 088 480 75
Charlotte Asjes | charlotte@verbierartsummit.org | +31 61 184 64 70