

Press Release – 2022 Virtual Verbiert Art Summit, 11 January 2022

All art and ecology lovers around the world are invited to join the Verbiert Art Summit **virtually** on **11–12 February 2022** to round-up the debate around the ecological theme **Resource Hungry**. The Summit's online platform will feature an interactive programme of talks, debates and live Q&As between thought leaders and key figures in the art world. Free registration for the 2022 Summit is now open, please click [here](#) to register.

New debates, with a group of renowned international speakers, will engage in ideas for ecological transformation in the arts, our cultural institutions, and society at large. The interdisciplinary programme will look back on previous Summit themes with an ecological perspective, providing a new way forward out of our Resource Hungry era.

The Summit series started with the theme *Size Matters! (De) Growth of the 21st Century Art Museum* chosen by our Strategic Director **Beatrix Ruf**. As partnering museum director in 2017, she was contributing with the team of the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, and is now again as Director of the Hartwig Art Foundation. Beatrix's theme revolved around the transformations of cultural institutes and their corresponding increase in scale, which remains relevant in times of climate crisis and will be further explored in her 2022 debate: **(De)Growth in Times of Climate Crisis**.



Torkwase Dyson. Photo courtesy of Torkwase Dyson Studios.

Beatrix' 2022 Summit debate will feature the artist **Torkwase Dyson**, who works across multiple mediums, such as painting, drawing and sculpture, exploring the continuity between ecology, infrastructure and architecture, with a focus on the ways that black and brown bodies perceive and negotiate space. Torkwase will be in dialogue with **Professor Louise O. Fresco**, an expert in the field of sustainable agriculture, who is aiming to provide an answer to the question: "How can we provide food for 9 trillion people by 2030?" Louise has also served as Assistant Director-General of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome since 2000.

The second Summit debate continues the theme *We are Many: Art, the Political and Multiple Truths*, chosen by our 2019 partnering museum director, **Jochen Volz** of the Pinacoteca de São Paulo. Jochen's theme engaged the art world in critical reflection on their social and political responsibilities, focusing on concepts of many histories, of plural forms of knowledge, and of contradicting narratives. Jochen's 2022 debate will expand on the ecological role of art: **Multiple Ecological Truths**, featuring the Indigenous filmmaker, journalist and activist **Olinda Tupinambá**, who works with audiovisual including documentaries, fiction and performance, dealing with environmental recovery and restoration. Olinda will be in conversation with writer, researcher, environmentalist and Indigenous leader **Ailton Krenak**, who will provide his expertise on Indigenous thinking of alternative ways to imagine the world and humanity's relationship with nature.



Ailton Krenak. Photo by Matthieu Jean Marie Lena / ISA

Two further Summit debates will be announced soon and the 2022 virtual Summit will also present its long-standing cultural partners, including the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève, Julie's Bicycle, HEAD–Genève and EPFL+ECAL Lab.

The Summit's local partner, the Verbier 3-D Foundation will inspire through the artwork by Lausanne-based artist collective **Fragmentin**, and the Verbier Festival will feature the composer, producer and DJ **Gabriel Prokofiev**.

Registration

With the aim to educate, provoke and inspire, the Verbier Art Summit welcomes those with a love for art, innovation and ecology to participate in its two-day free online programme. To **register** for the 2022 Verbier Art Summit, visit: virtual.verbierartsummit.org

All Summit participants are invited to share their ideas by creating a 'Pledge Card' about what climate actions they would like to see happening, please click [here](#) to create yours.

About the Verbier Art Summit

The Verbier Art Summit is a non-profit organisation aiming to empower the art ecosystem to be a positive social change facilitator. The annual in-person event in Verbier, Switzerland, will not be held in January 2022 due to current health regulations. The content of each Summit remains available on the website and is documented in an annual publication designed by Irma Boom and published by Koenig Books, London.

For more information please visit verbierartsummit.org or follow:

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