

ARTINFO

June 8, 2009

Editor's Picks: Art Basel Preview

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BASEL, Switzerland— The art world has no doubt come a long way since the Great Crash of last November, but if last month's hit-or-miss auctions are any indication, the market is still far from stable. As art fairs in particular struggle to gain their footing in a world still reeling from the effects of the recession — a world populated with collectors who take longer to think and are slower to buy — it will be interesting to see how **Art Basel**, generally considered the mother of all art fairs, fares.

This year's edition, the 40th, running June 10–14, boasts some 300 galleries — roughly the same number as last year, which is a good sign. In terms of different sections of the fair and extracurricular programming, the usual suspects will all be present: Art Unlimited, Public Art Projects, Art Basel Conversations, Art Film, and so on, in addition to the host of satellite fairs like **Scope**, **Volta**, and **Liste**, although the fledgling **PrintBasel** announced the cancellation of its 2009 edition in March, citing economic troubles.

One highlight of the lineup is the second-ever presentation of "Il Tempo del Postino," a live show consisting of a series of time-based artworks by the likes of **Tacita Dean**, Matthew Barney, **Olafur Eliasson**, and **Fischli & Weiss**, each of whom gets a snappy and (idiomatic) 15 minutes. "Il Tempo" will be playing at the Theater Basel for three nights: June 10–12 at 8:30 p.m.