

Kannenfeldplatz 6  
CH-4056 BASEL  
+41 61 322 10 00

Pasteursvej 8  
DK-1799 COPENHAGEN  
+45 31 66 86 96

info@vonbartha.com  
vonbartha.com

**Boris Rebetez**  
**Place des Cubes**  
von Bartha, Basel  
September 2 – October 29, 2022



Left: Boris Rebetez, Place des Cubes, 2022, Digital projection, 80 photographs in a loop, Loop duration 14 mn, variable images size; Right: Boris Rebetez, Untitled, 2020, photo collage, 22.7 x 24 cm

Von Bartha is pleased to present an upcoming solo exhibition by Boris Rebetez titled Place des Cubes in the gallery's Basel space from September 2 – October 29 2022. Focusing on architecture and surfaces, the exhibition is based on the principles of urban and universal constructional design.

Place des Cubes, is divided into two parts, the first exploring recent photo collages situated in the gallery's north space in conversation with new sculptural works. Further in the south space, visitors can then discover one of Rebetez's latest projection works Place des Cubes, evoking a square in Belfort (France) built in the 80's in a postmodern style.

This video work has given the exhibition its title and refers to the nickname provided by the local community to the officially named "Place de Franche-Comté", which was inaugurated in 1988 and designed by architect and urban planner Jacqueline Tribillon (1952 - 2019).

Located in a neighborhood dedicated to social housing, the Place des Cubes was intended to act as a playground for children and adults - the square quickly suffered from the ravages of time and vandalism. The composition, freely inspired by Mondrian or the 'Rubick's Cube' depending on your point of view, makes it a witness of its time with its contradictions and incongruous positivism.

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The good intentions with which the project begun resulted in great problems and discontent from the residents over time, and the cubes were finally demolished in 2019 for the redevelopment of the area. The view that the projection Place des Cubes casts on this place is not intended as a moralising and revisionist critique of the project, but rather as a disinterested and detached gaze. An almost poetic psychogeography about the ambivalence of the ugliness (or beauty) of a failed local utopian project that called itself popular.

Discovering the urban landscape, Rebetez combines the metaphorical fragments of architecture with a new kind of utopia.

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **Gallery Facts**

##### **Basel**

Address: von Bartha, Kannenfeldplatz 6, 4056 Basel, Switzerland

Telephone: + 41 61 322 1000

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Friday 2 - 6 pm, Sat 11 am - 4 pm or by appointment

Admission: Free

##### **Copenhagen**

Address: von Bartha Copenhagen, Pasteursvej 8, DK-1799 Copenhagen

Telephone: +45 31 66 86 96

Opening Hours: Wednesday to Friday 11 am - 5 pm, Sat 11 am - 3 pm or by appointment

Admission: Free

Website: [www.vonbartha.com](http://www.vonbartha.com)

Twitter: @vonbartha

Facebook: galleryvonbartha

Instagram: @vonbartha

##### **About Boris Rebetez**

Boris Rebetez (b. 1970 in Lajoux, Switzerland / Lives and works in Basel, Switzerland) is a multimedia artist who works with drawings, collages, sculptures, installations and photographs. He currently lives and works in Basel where he studied at the Schule für Gestaltung from 1990 – 1994. Rebetez's interest lies in the various concepts of space, which becomes obvious when analyzing his eclectic work containing drawings, collages, sculptures, installations and photography. Space therefore is not only addressed in terms of spatial surrounding, but also as a theoretical and historical entity. Further, Boris Rebetez understands space as to be experienced subjectively and to be created mentally. Boris Rebetez has exhibited in various international institutions like: Museum für Gegenwartskunst Basel, Graphische Sammlung der ETH Zürich, Kunstmuseum Solothurn, Musée Rath Geneva, Aargauer Kunsthhaus Aarau, Swiss Institute in Rome and New York, Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten Antwerpen, , Etablissement d'en face, Brussels, O.K. Centrum für Gegenwartskunst, Linz, Casino Luxembourg - Forum d'art contemporain.

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## About von Bartha

Initially co-founded in 1970 by Margareta and Miklos von Bartha who remain a contributing force in its strategic direction, the family-run gallery has been under the direction of Stefan von Bartha since 2008. Together, the two generations maintain an unparalleled level of expertise. Von Bartha is a trusted destination for its audiences and a place to gain knowledge of the artists and the specialist areas that they represent. Von Bartha presents a cutting-edge contemporary programme, representing an international roster of artists working across a diverse range of media including Superflex, Terry Haggerty, John Wood & Paul Harrison, Anna Dickinson, Sarah Oppenheimer, and Felipe Mujica amongst others. The gallery nurtures new generations of artists, whilst supporting the continually evolving practice of their established artists.

As one of the longest-running international contemporary art galleries, von Bartha continues to support the careers of influential artists such as Camille Graeser, Fritz Glarner and Olle Baertling. It facilitates discovery across the generations, and has a track record of fostering the careers of some of the leading artists of the 20th Century with a focus on Constructivism; Concrete art; and Op art.

Located in Basel, one of the world's most important centres for the display of art, and Copenhagen, a hub for innovative art, design and fashion, von Bartha brings together international and local art audiences across these two locations. Von Bartha creates a unique platform of events and programming including salons, openings, and exhibitions beyond the walls of the gallery, inspiring and informing audiences by making new connections and offering a fresh perspective. Von Bartha publishes books, exhibition catalogues and its own online magazine "Stories" featuring interviews, essays and insights to the gallery's work and programme. Read more at [www.vonbartha.com/stories](http://www.vonbartha.com/stories)

For more information about artists in the von Bartha gallery programme, please visit: <https://www.vonbartha.com/artists>

**Press Contact:** Sutton | Ella Roeg | [ella@suttoncomms.com](mailto:ella@suttoncomms.com) | +44 (0) 207 183 35 77

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