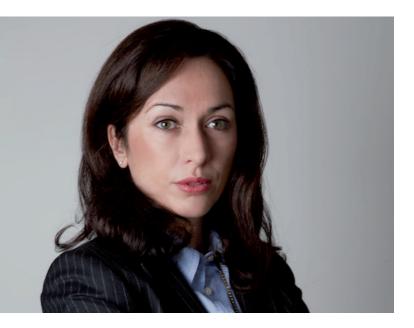
**OCULA:** 'An Ocula Conversation with Florence Derieux', by Stephanie Bailey, June 2014.

## OCULA CONVERSATION

## Florence Derieux curator of art basel parcour and director of frac champagne-ardenne

"I believe that no other fair in the world has created such a daring and generous response to the public's evergrowing interest in site-specific and performative works."

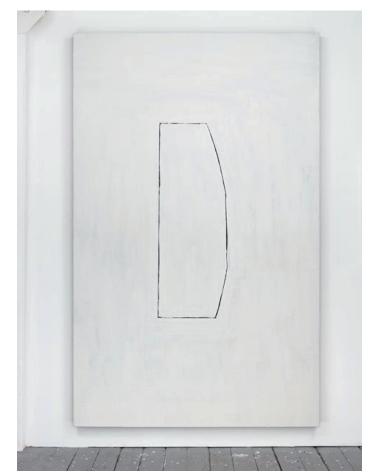


Formerly a curator at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, as well as the deputy director of the Picasso museum in Antibes, Florence Derieux has been the Director of FRAC Champagne-Ardenne since 2008, which conceives and produces exhibitions of contemporary art, and organizes educational activities and events to engage the public in contemporary art. Derieux has curated projects worldwide, most recently the first major survey of work by Agnes Denes in Western Europe at Firstsite, Colchester, UK, and has authored several books, essays and articles on the subject of contemporary art and artists. In 2006 to 2007, she served as Associate Curator of Le Magasin-Centre National d'Art Contemporain in Grenoble as well as a tutor at the Ecole du Magasin's International Curatorial Training Programme, where she directed the publication, Harald Szeemann: Individual Methodology (JRPIRingier, 2008). In 2013, Derieux was appointed the curator of the Parcours sector for Art Basel in Basel, which engages the city's historical quarters with site-specific sculptures, interventions and performances by renowned international artists and emerging talents. Returning in 2014 to curate the sector once again, Derieux discusses her plans for this year's edition.

Art Basel in Basel is now in full swing, and by all accounts the stampede of art world elite into the fair's hallowed spaces on day one kicked off a commercially successful iteration, with a good swag of the estimated \$2 billion of fine art contained therein having already been sold. According to various media outlets, sale highlights have ranged from Virginia Overton's Untitled (2014), a wall piece of found objects comprised of brass and steel pipes, sling and rope for around \$25,000, to Jeff Koons' stainless steel Dolphin (2007-13), selling to an Asian client for \$5 million, and an Andy Warhol being sold for a rumoured \$32 million. If you feel like you are missing out, don't despair because you can browse the latest works on Ocula's dedicated platform.



Jeff Koons, Gazing Ball (Demeter), 2014.



Erik Lindman, Untitled, 2014.



Dewain Valentine, *Square gray dapple to black*, 1970-71.



Ayan Farah, *Riyad*, 2014.



TURI SIMETI, Un tondo, 1989.