

PRESS RELEASE



RX FRANCE EXPRESSES SATISFACTION AT THE CONTINUATION OF PARIS PHOTO AT THE GRAND PALAIS FOR ANOTHER 7 YEARS, BUT STRONGLY REGRETS THE DECISION OF THE RMN-GRAND PALAIS TO EVICT THE FIAC

Paris, January 26, 2022 - RX France takes note of the decision of the Réunion des musées nationaux (RMN) Grand Palais to grant the month of October to MCH Group, the organizer of Art Basel, for the next 7 years, thereby transferring to the latter the activity developed by FIAC in Paris for the past 47 years. RX France strongly regrets this decision taken abruptly by the public institution, at the end of a procedure which RX believes was hasty and flawed.

Paris Photo will continue on its usual dates in November, also until 2028, at the Grand Palais Éphémère and then at the Grand Palais.

Following a call for proposals launched last December in conditions which RX believes were widely considered atypical, the RMN-Grand Palais chose to grant FIAC's competitor, the Swiss fair Art Basel, the October slot for the organization of a contemporary art fair. At the same time, the public institution has confirmed that Paris Photo will continue to be held in November at the Grand Palais Éphémère and then at the future Grand Palais until 2028.

The decision of the RMN-Grand Palais concerning the FIAC, on the other hand, puts an end to nearly 50 years of trust and collaboration between the fair and the Grand Palais. It will put an end to the cultural exception that the FIAC represents; it thus directly raises the question of the place that will be reserved for French galleries in the future.

"We have always thought and built our major events in the long term and we will continue to do so. This is how we build, year after year, our events with and for our clients and partners. Loyalty and respect for commitments are cardinal values for us. It is in this spirit that, after decades of investment and presence at the Grand Palais, we have succeeded in raising the FIAC to the highest ranks of the world's leading contemporary art fairs and in making Paris one of the world's most important capitals for cultural and artistic life.

By making the FIAC an annual meeting place for art collectors, institutions and the public at large to exchange around modern and contemporary art and design, we have always made a point of maintaining a significant presence of national galleries, including emerging ones, and of offering the greatest number of people access to contemporary art, notably through our Hors les Murs program. Paris was an exception in this respect. This is a huge disappointment for our teams and all the clients and partners who support us," said Michel Filzi, President of RX France.

"The procedure launched by the RMN-Grand Palais is not only a first that impacts the entire ecosystem associated with French contemporary art but also questions the programming of events at the Grand Palais. If it is confirmed that the most established events are thus at the mercy of decisions that are as brutal and unilateral as they are unpredictable on the part of the managers of the buildings that are likely to host them in France, it is clearly our entire sector that will be affected, to the great benefit of our European competitors. We reserve the right to challenge the decision concerning FIAC in court in favor of its competitor," adds Michel Filzi.

"As for Paris Photo, RX France has made it the number one art fair in the world dedicated to photography and continues to innovate in order to give this medium and Paris an international scope of the highest order. We are thinking first of all of our clients, our partners, our teams and the loyal visitors of Paris Photo, for whom this will also be a relief, and we look forward to seeing them from November 10 to 13, 2022 for the 25th edition of the fair," comments Michel Filzi.

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About RX France

RX France organizes face-to-face, digital or hybrid events, leaders in some 20 different markets. RX's flagship national and international trade shows include MIPIM, MAPIC, Batimat, Pollutec, EquipHotel, SITL, IFTM Top Resa, MIPCOM, MIPTV, FIAC, Paris Photo and many others... Our events take place in France, China, India, Italy, Mexico, Russia and the United States.

We support our clients in their strategic and commercial development by producing meetings that facilitate and multiply their business opportunities and by offering them ever more innovative events that combine the best of the physical and the digital.

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RX is committed to making a positive impact on society and creating an inclusive work environment for all our employees.

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