

## Press Release

### Chloe Wise: *Extrasensory*

Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger | KBH.G

12 June – 6 September 2026

Curated by **Samuel Leuenberger**

The Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger | KBH.G presents ***Extrasensory***, the **first institutional exhibition in Switzerland** by New York–based artist **Chloe Wise** (b. 1990). Curated by **Samuel Leuenberger**, the exhibition marks the artist's **first major presentation in the country** and introduces her **most expansive film project to date**, set within a large-scale immersive installation.

In ***Extrasensory***, Chloe Wise extends her longstanding investigation into how subjectivity is constructed through images, symbols, and cultural codes. Her practice, which frequently interrogates the entanglement of representation and desire, here shifts toward the conditions of perception itself, examining how meaning is produced at the intersection of sensory experience, belief systems, and narrative structures.

The exhibition understands perception not as a neutral reception of reality, but as an active, mediating process shaped by language, history, and cultural expectations. Wise introduces figures that evoke angels, supernatural beings, or technological apparitions, yet present themselves as unstable constructs. The curator Samuel Leuenberger notes: “This exhibition is less about defining phenomena than about how they are experienced. Chloe Wise stays with moments where perception and language begin to falter, allowing uncertainty to remain active rather than resolved. The figures that appear function as cultural tools, ways of thinking through encounters with the unknown. In an era of forced clarity, ***Extrasensory*** insists on ambiguity as a form of resistance.”

At the heart of ***Extrasensory*** is a multichannel video installation in which moving images unfold across a constellation of large screens, enveloping the viewer in a shifting, cinematic environment. Across these screens, seven archetypes emerge as embodiments of mystical or metaphysical phenomena. The protagonists inhabit exaggerated roles that blur belief systems, cultural archetypes, and ideological projections. The films visually echo the iconography of Wise's paintings while drawing on the aesthetics of late 20th century film and television, a seductive, uncanny register that underscores the exhibition's critique of persuasion, fantasy, and mass imagery.

An artist book in English and German with several contributions by scientists, theorists and artists is produced in conjunction with ***Extrasensory*** and will be available free of charge to

visitors, extending the project beyond the institution and reinforcing Wise's interest in circulation, access, and material culture. The book will be published and distributed by Hatje Cantz.

"With *Extrasensory*, KBH.G is proud to present Chloe Wise's first major institutional exhibition in Switzerland. Her work speaks incisively to the conditions of our present moment, where images, belief systems, and sensory experience continuously overlap and collide. This exhibition reflects our commitment to supporting ambitious contemporary practices that challenge perception, expand artistic language, and invite audiences into complex, immersive encounters." - **Raphael Suter**, Director of Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger | KBH.G

## Notes to Editors

### About the Artist

**Chloe Wise** (b. 1990, Montreal, Canada) is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice spans painting, sculpture, video, and installation. She received her BFA from Concordia University in Montreal and currently lives and works in New York.

Wise's work is grounded in an interest in the history of portraiture and examines the multiple channels through which the Self is constructed, particularly the interweaving of consumption and image-making. With humor and irony, she references canonical art-historical tableaux while probing projected desires surrounding food, femininity, and the body. Her meticulously hand-painted casts of food, assembled into uncanny sculptural forms, sustain a tension between permanence and perishability, fiction and reality. Drawing on references from advertising, fashion, taboo, and multinational branding, Wise both parodies contemporary consumptive habits and exposes the ways in which the body is framed, stylized, and rendered excessive within systems of visual culture.

Recent solo exhibitions include *Myth Information*, Almine Rech, New York (2025); *Told A Vision*, Art Basel Parcours, Basel (2023); *In the Loveliness of Perfect Deeds*, Blouin Division, Montréal (2022); *Spite Unseen*, Galerie Sébastien Bertrand, Geneva (2022); and *Chloe Wise*, HEART – Herning Museum of Contemporary Art, Herning, Denmark (2019).

Her work has also been included in notable group exhibitions at institutions including Centre Pompidou-Metz (2025), Kunstverein Bielefeld (2024), LACMA, Los Angeles (2022), and The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh (2021), as well as exhibitions at Kasmin Gallery, New York (2021), König Galerie, Berlin (2021), David Zwirner, New York (2020), and Gagosian, New York (2019).

Wise is the subject of two monographs: *Second Nature* (2021) and *Chloe Wise* (2016).

## About the Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger | KBH.G

The Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger | KBH.G was founded in 2019 by philanthropist Sibylle Geiger (1930–2020), who named the foundation after her grandfather, Swiss pharmacist and entrepreneur Hermann Geiger (1870–1962). The foundation's mission is to provide a unique platform for art and culture to the city of Basel and its residents and visitors. All the foundation's activities aim to add a new dimension to Basel's already rich cultural offerings. The foundation holds two to three independent art exhibitions each year, with free admission and publications. [kbhg.ch](http://kbhg.ch) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

## Exhibition Details

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12 June – 6 September 2026

Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger | KBH.G  
Spitalstrasse 18, 4056 Basel, Switzerland  
Admission and publication are free

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High-resolution images available upon request