

# GAGOSIAN

---

Urs Fischer's Sculpture *Wave* Installed at Place Vendôme, Paris, from October 14

Monumental Work Forms Part of Paris+ par Art Basel

---



Urs Fischer, *Wave*, 2018 (detail), milled aluminum and steel, 17 feet 3/4 inch × 24 feet 11 1/4 inches × 14 feet 9 1/8 inches (520 × 760 × 450 cm) © Urs Fischer

[Download Press Images](#)

**PARIS, September 25, 2023**—Gagosian is pleased to present Urs Fischer's public sculpture *Wave* (2018). The work will be installed at Place Vendôme in Paris from October 14 as part of Paris+ par Art Basel.

*Wave* is the sixth sculpture in Fischer's series *Big Clays*. Despite their imposing scale, these works always begin with a small piece or pieces of clay shaped in the artist's hand. Fischer describes this process as "a sensual and repetitive gesture, like a bodily motion," which he ends prior to conscious intervention. After making hundreds of such forms, he selects only one to be digitally scanned and carved at an enlarged scale. Unlike a cast form or a digital replica, the resulting work preserves the nuanced tactility of the original maquette, magnifying its details—down to the artist's fingerprints—into a monument.

The ten existing works in the *Big Clays* series, all of which are made from aluminum, have been exhibited as public centerpieces in cities around the world, including Florence, Moscow, and New York; in 2022, *Lovers #2* (2022) was installed at Museo Jumex, Mexico City. *Wave*—along with one other work in the series, *L'Arc* (2016)—was finished with a milling process that gives it even greater surface detail and a mirrorlike shine, reflecting Fischer's interest in reframing the authorial hand.

At more than seventeen feet tall, *Wave* towers over the viewer and appears caught between formation and disintegration, recalling the sculpture of Barbara Hepworth, a late bronze by Willem de Kooning,

the “automatic” processes of Surrealist sculptors, and even a cryptic marker unearthed at some ancient site. It is also consistent with the artist’s fascination with the transformed figure, recalling the dripping wax of his candle sculptures. Imbued with irreverence toward aesthetic tradition, *Wave* is at once abstract and figurative, contemporary and timeless.

**Urs Fischer** was born in Zurich and lives and works in New York. Collections include the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Fondation Carmignac, Paris; Vanhaerents Art Collection, Brussels; Kunstmuseum Basel; FRAC Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, Marseille, France; Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich; and Museo d’arte della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, Switzerland. Exhibitions include *Marguerite de Ponty*, New Museum, New York (2009–10); 54th Biennale di Venezia (2011); *Skinny Sunrise*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna (2012); *Madame Fisscher*, Palazzo Grassi, Venice (2012); Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2013); *YES*, DESTE Foundation Project Space, Slaughterhouse, Hydra, Greece (2013); *Small Axe*, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow (2013); *Mon cher...*, Fondation Vincent Van Gogh, Arles, France (2016); *The Public & the Private*, Legion of Honor, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (2017); *The Lyrical and the Prosaic*, Aishti Foundation, Beirut (2019–20); *Lovers*, Museo Jumex, Mexico City (2022); and *PLAY*, Tel Aviv Museum of Art (2022).

#UrsFischer

## **URS FISCHER**

*Wave*

Public installation for Paris+ par Art Basel at Place Vendôme, Paris  
October 14–November 30, 2023

---

## **Press**

### **Gagosian**

[press@gagosian.com](mailto:press@gagosian.com)

Toby Kidd

[tkidd@gagosian.com](mailto:tkidd@gagosian.com)

+44 20 7495 1500

### **Karla Otto**

Ottavia Palomba

[ottavia.palomba@karlaotto.com](mailto:ottavia.palomba@karlaotto.com)

+33 1 42 61 34 36