



John M Armleder

July 12 – September 14

Hindergässli

Hindergässli 1, 3792 Saanen · contact@hindergassli.ch



John M. Armleder (b. 1948, Geneva) is a seminal figure in contemporary art whose multifaceted practice spans painting, sculpture, installation, performance, and curation. A co-founder of the Ecart group in the 1960s and a contributor to the Fluxus movement, Armleder has continually challenged the boundaries between high and low culture, authorship and appropriation, form and function. With a conceptual rigor balanced by an exuberant visual sensibility, his work explores the intersection of chance, abstraction, and design, consistently inviting viewers to reconsider aesthetic conventions.

At the heart of this exhibition are two new *Pour Paintings*, created specifically for the occasion. This ongoing series, which Armleder began in the late 1990s, reflects his fascination with process, accident, and materiality. In these works, paint is poured directly onto the canvas in a fluid, almost performative gesture, allowing gravity and chance to shape the final composition. The resulting surfaces—layered, iridescent, and often mesmerizing—embody a tension between control and surrender, echoing both Abstract Expressionism and the anti-form strategies of postmodernism.

The exhibition also features a newly conceived *Furniture Sculpture*, a striking example of Armleder's ongoing dialogue between functionality, found objects, and aesthetic transformation. This work pairs a traditional upholstered chair with a dense structure of antlers, creating a surreal and almost mythic hybrid between rustic design and sculptural provocation. At once elegant and uncanny, the piece exemplifies Armleder's interest in collapsing boundaries between art and décor, the everyday and the extraordinary. Its playful yet unsettling presence invites viewers to reflect on the cultural codes embedded in furniture, material, and form—while subtly echoing the artist's long-standing fascination with Dada and the absurd.



John M Armleder's works are held in major public and private collections worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art (New York), the Centre Pompidou (Paris), the Tate Modern (London), and the Kunstmuseum Basel. He has exhibited extensively in prestigious institutions such as the Swiss Pavilion at the Venice Biennale (1986), the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, and the ICA in London. His practice continues to exert a powerful influence on younger generations of artists, affirming his place as a vital voice in the contemporary art landscape.



John M Armleder
After Completion, 2025
Mixed media on canvas
110 x 110 x 5 cm
43 1/4 x 43 1/4 x 2 in



John M Armleder
Advance, 2025
Mixed media on canvas
110 x 110 x 5 cm
43 1/4 x 43 1/4 x 2 in



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Two Elements (FS), 2025

Mixed media on canvas and deer antler armchair

200 x 310 x 100 cm

78 3/4 x 122 x 39 3/8 in



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