

Surfaces

Jörg Brockmann, Nicolas Delaroche, Teodelina Detry, Nacoca Ko, Mila Mayer, Maya Rochat, Julien Spiewak and Gabriel Wickbold

Opening on May 21, 2026

Exhibition from May 21 to June 20, 2026

Opening hours: Tuesdays to Saturday from 11 to 6pm, and by appointment

Throughout its history, photography has been shaped by surfaces—both those it captures and those on which it appears. Early processes like the daguerreotype and calotype made photographs fragile, tactile objects. Reflective metal, absorbent paper, and hand-applied emulsions revealed the medium's material roots.

In this exhibition, eight contemporary artists explore surfaces in distinct and complementary ways. Jörg Brockmann perceives the surfaces like a constantly changing playground where everyday life poetry is written. Teodelina Detry reflects thru her work, in a quiet and poetic way, a search for freedom and the fragility of life. Nicolas Delaroche examines how spaces retain the traces of their use, working through photography of collections, interiors, and built environments, alongside ceramic pieces in which images are fired into enamel, until image and material merge into one. Nacoca Ko reasearches synthetic materials inherited and persistent across deep time—plastic and concrete—reflecting on artificiality, transformation, and the geology of anthropogenic matter. Mila Mayer traces the passage of time and personal memory, combining her photographic practice with digital fluency to capture life's textures. Maya Rochat investigates the perceptual and material qualities of the photographed subject. Julien Spiewak interrogates the human body in relation to space, highlighting the tension between skin, object, and architectural interiors. Gabriel Wickbold explores human body using its surface as a field for transformation. In his work texture acts as an extension of the body, revealing its tensions, its metamorphoses, and its layers of identity, turning the photographic surface into a symbolic, sensory, and embodied territory.

By working across both physical and digital media—scratching negatives, sculpting prints, or confronting the immateriality of screens—these artists demonstrate that photographic surfaces are not just visual records; they are spaces where light, matter, and meaning converge. This exhibition invites viewers to experience photography as a surface where light, matter, and meaning converge.

Jörg Brockmann

Born in 1967, lives and works in Geneva

Jörg Brockmann holds a Bachelor's degree in photography from the Rochester Institute of Technology (USA). He works as a freelance photographer and teaches at CFPArts. He is also director of Espace Jörg Brockmann, a photography gallery he has run since 2010. He has held several exhibitions (Galerie Nov, Galerie Edward Mitterrand) and published a number of coffee-table books, including the bestseller *One Thousand New York Buildings*.

He has been documenting urban and urban hinterland spaces for many years using a variety of tools, ranging from iPhones to large-format cameras. His interest lies in the organic aspect of the city, in the way walls, posts, windows, streets and concrete are occupied, used and transformed, either through direct actions (graffiti, additions, overlays, etc.) or simply by the passage of light casting shadows.

He perceives these surfaces like a constantly changing playground where everyday life poetry is written.



Nicolas Delaroche

Lives and works between Lausanne and Paris

Nicolas Delaroche is interested in museum storage rooms, collectors' apartments, and spaces where multinational companies display and store their art acquisitions. More specifically, he focuses on how artworks interact with these particular contexts. Through photography, visual arts, and installation, he reveals these spaces as places of exchange, where elements—artworks, architecture, and materials—communicate with each other.

For the *Ex-Foto: Vulcano*, series, the artist transfers photographs onto ceramic enamel and fires them at 800 degrees, until the image is no longer on the surface but of it. The photographs were made on Vulcano, a dormant Aeolian island where geology is still visible as process. Absorbed into the glaze, the images shed their documentary nature. What remains carries the weight of something excavated rather than recorded.

Delaroche studied Photography at ECAL and holds a Master in Contemporary Arts Practice from the Hochschule der Künste Bern. His work has been shown at the Venice Architecture Biennale, Musée de l'Élysée, Centre PasquArt, Galerie Azzedine Alaïa, Tap Seac Gallery Macau, and Aperture New York. He has held residencies at the Cité internationale des arts, Paris, and Pivô, São Paulo. He is the recipient of a Pro Helvetia grant and the Raymond Weil Prize.



Teodelina Detry

Born in Buenos Aires in 1975, lives and works between Argentina and Switzerland.

Teodelina Detry is a visual artist born in Argentina. She studied Art Direction and photography in Buenos Aires, Geneva, and New York. Her work reflects, in a quiet and poetic way, on the search for freedom and the fragility of life.

Since 2017, she has participated in national and international exhibitions. In Buenos Aires, at BAphoto with the gallery Zona de Photo, as well as at Mundo Nuevo Art Gallery, Otra Feria, Cecilia Caballero, Del Infinito, and Rolf galleries. In Córdoba, at Argüello & Bouchard Gallery. In Uruguay, she took part in “Ellas”, the first edition of Campo in Pueblo Garzón, at ArtFest 2022, and at Galería del Paseo. In Finland, she exhibited selected works at the Helsinki Festival. In Paris, with Fotógrafas Latam. In Brazil, at SPArte with Galería Mario Cohen and at the cultural space Ateliê CASA. In Geneva, Switzerland, at Galerie Espace L and Photo Basel, and in New York at Volta Fair.

In March 2020, she published her first author photography book, *The Anemone is a Flower that Opens at the Slightest Gust of Wind*. The same year, she received the “Photographer of the Year for a Book” award from the International Photography Awards.



Mila Mayer

Born in Brazil in 1966, lives and works between São Paulo, Nassau and Geneva

Mila Mayer began her career as an economist, but photography has been her silent companion since childhood — a lifelong practice of recording the world around her. Raised between Brazil and Europe, she inherited a rare creative duality: the refined aesthetic sensibility of her German father's European heritage and the vibrant sense of color that is unmistakably Brazilian.

After raising her children between Brazil and Switzerland, Mila turned fully to her true calling. She studied at the Escola Panamericana de Artes in São Paulo and deepened her practice through various courses, embracing the digital medium with remarkable ease. In 2011, she made her formal entry into the art world to great acclaim, and her work has since been exhibited at SP-Arte and SP-Photo, as well as in galleries across Brazil, Switzerland, Portugal, and the United States.

Today, Mila is an internationally recognized artist who divides her time between Brazil, the Bahamas, and Europe. Driven by an insatiable curiosity, she finds her subjects everywhere — in the faces of people, the grain of textures, the lines of architecture, and the rhythms of the natural world. In recent years, Mila has embraced a new creative chapter, devoted to collage and multimedia work — weaving her photographs into layered compositions that push the boundaries of the image. This evolving body of work will be presented in a solo exhibition in January 2027.

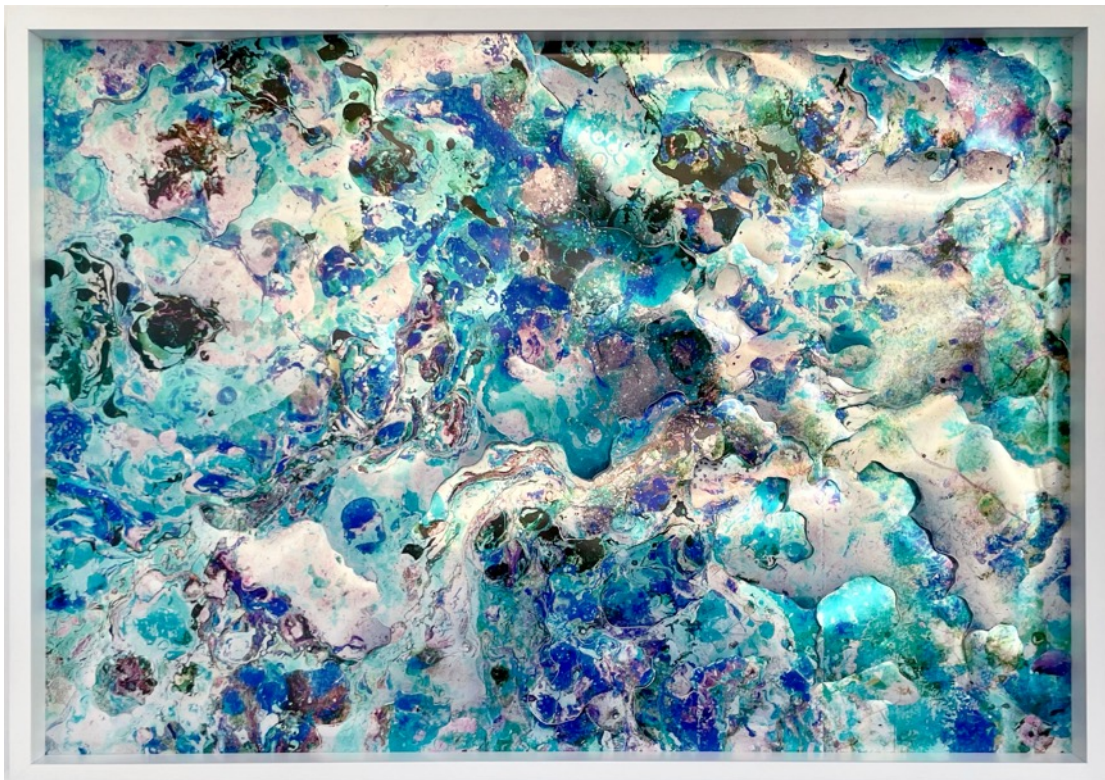


Maya Rochat

Born in Morges in 1985, lives and works between Cully et Lausanne.

A graduate of ECAL (École cantonale d'art de Lausanne) and HEAD – Geneva University of Art and Design, Maya Rochat works across multiple media, combining photography, painting, video, and live performance to create immersive, multisensory visual experiences. Over the past decade, she has developed an expansive body of work that transforms space and engages viewers across a wide range of formats and supports, from large-scale installations to performative interventions. Painting lies at the core of her practice: a direct, intuitive language through which instinct, gesture, and color unfold. Her work is defined by a physical and emotional relationship to image-making, where process and presence are central. Among her most celebrated projects, the Living in the Painting series, monumental, poetic live projections created in collaboration with musicians such as Buvette, Julie Semoroz, and Blackout, has captivated audiences at iconic venues including Tate Modern's South Tank (London), Plateforme 10 (Lausanne), the Grand Théâtre (Geneva), and the KKL (Lucerne). Her work has been exhibited at major international institutions including the Maison Européenne de la Photographie (Paris), Tate Modern (London), Photo Elysée (Lausanne), Palais de Tokyo (Paris), and ETH Zürich. Since 2018, she has extended her practice to include objects and garments developed from the same prints used in her exhibitions, expanding her interdisciplinary approach beyond the exhibition space.

Rochat's practice has earned her numerous awards, including the Prix AMP (2022), Prix Mobilière (2019), Bourse Leenaards (2018), and Prix Abraham Hermanjat (2017). Her works are held in significant public and private collections, and continue to push the boundaries of contemporary image-making with a raw, vibrant, and deeply poetic vision.



Nacoca Ko

Born in the USA, lives and works in Geneva

Nacoca Ko is an artist and curator based in Geneva, working across sculpture, digital media, performance, virtual environments, and AI systems. Her practice investigates how technology shapes perception, attention, and contemporary consciousness, often using long-lasting materials like polymers and concrete to explore the entanglement of synthetic and organic worlds.

Her exhibitions include Climaxx (Futuros – Arte e Tecnologia Museum, Rio de Janeiro, 2025), New Sounds, New Visions (Casa Museu Eva Klabin, 2023), and solo shows such as Now is Open (Geneva, 2026) and Rise of the Sacred Feminine (Basel, 2023), along with international presentations in London, Tokyo, and Santa Fe, as well as metaverse projects.

She is the creator of Spinning in Fluid Dreams, a long-term project bridging physical and virtual spaces, shown at Art Genève and online, and was recently shortlisted for the CERN Resonance Residency. Her work is held in private collections in Europe and the United States.



Julien Spiewak

Born in 1984, lives and works in Paris

Julien Spiewak holds a Master's degree in photography. He is an artist, photographer, and researcher who questions the relationship between the photographic image and the human body as an artistic expression. Since 2005, he has been working on an ongoing series entitled Corps de style, initially with private collectors and then in museums. He introduces fragments of naked bodies into these spaces. He has carried out this artistic project in the Prince's Palace of Monaco, the Museum of Hunting and Nature (Paris), the Doria Pamphilj Palace (Rome), the Ariana Museum (Geneva), and the Museum of the Republic (Rio).

Institutional collections:

Paris Musées (France), Arario Museum in Seoul (South Korea), Van Loon Museum (Netherlands), Prince's Palace of Monaco, Maison de Balzac (France), Rio Art Museum - MAR (Brazil), Museum of Hunting and Nature (France), Museum of Romantic Life (France), Doria Castle (Italy), Siri Sala Private Thai Villa (Thailand).



Gabriel Wickbold

Born in Rio de Janeiro in 1984, lives and works in São Paulo, Brazil

Gabriel Wickbold started his career as a photographer in 2006, after a period in poetry and music. Throughout his career, Wickbold has produced 6 author series, and has had his work exhibited in cities like São Paulo, New York, Stockholm, Lisbon, London and Miami. At present, more than 15 of his works are part of permanent collections in important museums, such as Erarta (St Petersburg, Russia) and MAB (São Paulo, Brazil).

In 2019, in a partnership with BMW, Wickbold had his work exhibited during the opening week at the Paris Photo and in the same year received honors at the Xposure International Photography Festival, in the UAE.

In 2020, he became the youngest artist ever to have his own solo exhibition at the Brazilian Art Museum at FAAP (MAB) and was elected one of the “Men of the Year” by GQ magazine. Today, Gabriel Wickbold is among the most important Brazilian artists.

