

Mirko Baselgia

Passaggio

Galerie Urs Meile, Ardez

August 3 – 30, 2026

Reception: Saturday, August 8, 4 – 7pm

The artist will be present

Galerie Urs Meile is pleased to present *Passaggio*, a solo exhibition by Mirko Baselgia (b. 1982, Lantsch/Lenz, Switzerland) at the gallery's Engadin location in Ardez. At the center of the exhibition stands the artist's exploration of transition, materiality and the dissolution of fixed categories.

The central work is a wooden sculpture in two parts that unfolds between interior and exterior space. The piece is composed of two structural frameworks made from spruce three-layer panels and an outer skin of Swiss stone pine veneer. The forms consist of a series of curved wooden elements that create a hollow body, making both the supporting structure and its cladding visible. One element is situated indoors, standing, while the other is outdoors, lying; together they form a single work whose connection only becomes visible through their physical separation.

The standing form rises upright, asserting presence while forming an interior that remains open. The lying form, by contrast, appears as an opened shell, evoking exposure and vulnerability. Constructed from a visible framework, the piece foregrounds the relationship between structure and surface. The wooden skin never fully conceals it; both interact with one another, shifting attention from the object as a self-contained form to the interplay of layer, space, and material presence. The work does not assert definitive forms; rather, it articulates states, transitions, and interdependency.

The outdoor element is exposed to weathering; light, air, water and time gradually alter its surface, color, and material presence. The boundary between the sculpture and its surroundings becomes increasingly permeable, and dissolution emerges not as loss but as a continuation of the work itself.

Mirko Baselgia's new pieces explore conditions in which familiar orders lose their unambiguity. Visibility is tied to material presence, while stability appears only as a temporary condition. Interior and exterior, structure and skin, supporting framework and surface initially appear as opposing categories. Within the works themselves, however, these boundaries begin to blur.

The exhibition title *Passaggio* does not refer to a single moment, but to an ongoing process. It describes transitions between seemingly fixed categories and points to a reality in which boundaries are not rigid divisions but permeable and constantly shifting. Sculpture and relief are thus understood not as self-contained objects, but as open systems in which meaning arises through the interplay between work, space, and viewer.

Alongside the solo exhibition by Mirko Baselgia, a curated selection of works by Antonio Ballester Moreno, Cao Yu, Martin Disler, Klodin Erb, Guo Tiantian, Hu Qingyan, Ju Ting, Tobias Kaspar, Urs Lüthi, Miao Miao, Rosalind Nashashibi, Shao Fan, Loredana Sperini, Rebekka Steiger, Julia Steiner, Mai Ta, Wiedemann/Mettler, Xie Nanxing and Yang Mushi will be presented.

BIOGRAPHY

Mirko Baselgia (b. 1982, Lantsch/Lenz, Switzerland) works across sculpture, drawing, installation, and painting to explore the interconnected relationships between humans, nature, and the cosmos. Deeply engaged with natural processes and materials, his work combines ecological reflection, sensorial experience, and an investigation of the structures and transformations that shape the natural world.

Over the past two decades, Baselgia has developed a distinctive practice rooted in close observation of the structures, rhythms, and transformation processes that shape the natural world. Drawing inspiration from organic forms and phenomena, he frequently reinterprets natural structures through unexpected materials and techniques, creating works that oscillate between scientific inquiry, craftsmanship, and poetic imagination. Working with materials such as wood, stone, beeswax, mushroom ink, and metal, he investigates the relationship between the visible and the invisible, the real and the imagined, and the constant state of transformation that characterizes all living systems. Collaboration with craftspeople and specialists plays a central role in his practice, enabling him to translate complex conceptual ideas into materially precise and evocative forms. Across his work, philosophical and existential questions are embedded within a deep engagement with materiality, generating subtle interventions that heighten awareness of our place within larger ecological networks.

Institutional exhibitions include KOENIGmuseum, Landshut, Germany (2023); Kunst(Zeug)Haus, Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland (2020); Bellelay Abbey, Switzerland (2018); Bündner Kunstmuseum, Chur, Switzerland (2013). Baselgia is the recipient of several notable awards, including the Kiefer Hablitzel Prize (2012) and the Manor Art Prize, Chur (2013). His works are held in major public and private collections, including Bündner Kunstmuseum (Switzerland); The Burger Collection (Hong Kong) MUDAC Lausanne (Switzerland), Roche Art Collection (Switzerland); the Swiss National Bank Collection (Switzerland) Zürcher Kantonalbank (Switzerland).

Mirko Baselgia lives and works in Lantsch/Lenz, Switzerland.