



 → ART BASEL 2019

## In pictures: Art Basel veteran John Armleder targets his favourite pieces at the fair

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The Swiss artist, who has had a stand at the fair since 1980, guides us round the second floor

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John Armleder is having a moment. The Schirn Kunsthalle in Frankfurt opened a major show by the Swiss artist last week (until 1 September), which will be followed by exhibitions in Los Angeles at David Kordansky Gallery (27 June-24 August), the Aspen Art Museum (4 July-27 October) and Mamco in Geneva (4 July-Spring 2020). At Art Basel, he is once again manning his stand called Ecart—an artist-run project that has had a presence at the fair since 1980, and which this year is showing works by the late Gustav Metzger. The Ecart gallery closed in 1990 but Armleder maintains a stand even though a permanent gallery space is normally a prerequisite for participating in the fair. Fitted out with furniture from the ballroom of his parents' hotel, the Ecart stand is one of the busiest meeting points at Art Basel; artists, dealers and friends stop by all day long. "I like the idea that people can come and hang out," Armleder says. "Also, because I'm lazy, I can



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Polly Apfelbaum, Sun Targets (2018), Frith Street Gallery: “Another target! I’m against restricting the ideas of a work, but of course the target is a seminal image that many artists have used in one form or another. I really like [the US artist] Kenneth Noland, who made famous target paintings and is the father of Cady Noland, who also just had a show in Frankfurt [at the Museum für Moderne Kunst]. Her work has little to do with her father’s but she’s also a great artist. Noland’s targets were made in a period of American painting that interests me. I have shown with Polly Apfelbaum before, in New York.”