

# OCULA

## Galleries Adjust Presentations for Art Basel Hong Kong's Online Viewing Rooms

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Several galleries have chosen to show works they either couldn't have realised in a booth or look just as enticing on a device.

When they launch this week, Art Basel Hong Kong's (ABHK) Online Viewing Rooms will include presentations by over 90 percent of the galleries slated to take part in the physical fair. Altogether, 231 galleries will present artworks worth over US \$250m to VIPs from March 18 and to the public from March 20-25.

The Online Viewing Rooms, accessible at [artbasel.com/viewing-rooms](http://artbasel.com/viewing-rooms) and on the Art Basel App, were announced shortly after the physical fair was cancelled due to the spread of COVID-19, and the change in formats has encouraged galleries to show different kinds of works. Some have moved away from pieces designed to draw in selfie-taking fairgoers, replaced by works that, for instance, are better suited to screens or benefit from almost unlimited virtual space online.

Felix Bernstein and Gabe Rubin's *Madame de Void: A Melodrama*



Felix Bernstein and Gabe Rubin, *Madame de Void: A Melodrama* (2018). Video still, HD digital video, multi-channel surround sound, 45 minutes. Courtesy the artists and David Lewis, New York.

David Lewis Gallery, New York has chosen to show a single video work in their online viewing room. The plot of the 45-minute film sees a woman fall in love with one of the dogs she is raising for its fur, a camp twist on the already camp Disney film *101 Dalmations* (1996). Felix Bernstein, who created the film with Gabe Rubin, said about the work, 'cartoony worlds like Disney take on drag, queer, trans affectations and do deeply satisfying things but, in the end, it is a repressive desublimation.'