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**John Cale is coming to Basel: Vis-à-vis with rock music legends thanks to the partnership between the Fondation Beyeler and Bayer**



John Cale, charismatic founding member of the unforgettable avant-garde band *The Velvet Underground* that was associated with Andy Warhol, extraordinary solo musician and music producer, is performing an exclusive concert with his trio at the Fondation Beyeler on October 22 at 6pm.

Exceptional art experiences are a tradition at the Fondation Beyeler. Why does fine art exert such a powerful fascination? Why are museums so popular? Doubtless because they permit a direct personal relationship to art, face to face and with no filter. When we visit a museum, we totally possess the artworks we see for a few moments in time; we immerse ourselves in them and they arouse emotions and questions in us, generating lively dialogs spanning different centuries and cultures.

The close, intimate, sometimes demanding and always exciting experiencing of art in a museum has inspired the Fondation Beyeler and Bayer to hold a loose series of concerts in which a legendary musician can be experienced close up, just as artworks are. Last year Patti Smith and her band performed an acoustic set at the Fondation Beyeler and this year it is the turn of the rock legend John Cale.

After studying at Goldsmiths College in London, the unconventional, headstrong Welshman was awarded a Leonard Bernstein scholarship thanks to the intervention of Aaron Copland, the contemporary US composer, and worked with major figures on the American avant-garde scene such as La Monte Young and John Cage. Together with Lou Reed, he founded a band that created not just musical but also cultural history: *The Velvet Underground*. The album by the same name (with Lou Reed, Maureen Tucker, Sterling Morrison and Nico) and subsequent solo albums such as *Paris 1919* (1973); *Helen of Troy* (1975); *Music For A New Society* (1982), *Caribbean Sunset* (1983), and *Songs For Drella* (1990), to name just a few, make the hearts of music fans beat faster even after decades.

Cale also made a name for himself as the composer of film soundtracks like *Basquiat* (1996) and *American Psycho* (2000).

On the occasion of the digital remastering and reissue of his remarkable album *Music For A New Society* and its visceral reworking under the title *M:FANS*, John Cale is coming to Basel to give an exceptional concert at the Fondation Beyeler.

The long-standing partnership between the Fondation Beyeler, the most-visited art museum in Switzerland, and Bayer, for which Basel is a key location, permits the experiencing of art by young people and adults.

In the context of this new collaboration, the Fondation Beyeler and Bayer are inviting sensational musicians to Basel. The concerts permit a face-to-face encounter with those music legends and their songs. After John Cale, visitors can look forward to meeting with other great musicians.

**Presenting Partner:**



**Science For A Better Life**

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**Information:**

**John Cale**

An intimate evening with the co-founder of *The Velvet Underground* and his trio  
Saturday, October 22, 2016 at 6.00 p.m.

**Tickets: CHF 85 / Art Club, Friends: CHF 70**

Museum admission is included in the cost of the ticket; the exhibition can be visited before the concert.

**Press images:** are available on request at [presse@fondationbeyeler.ch](mailto:presse@fondationbeyeler.ch)

**Further information:**

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**Fondation Beyeler opening hours: 10 am - 6 pm daily, Wednesdays until 8 pm**