

Marc-Olivier Wahler

Istituto Svizzero

Marc-Olivier Wahler (born 1964, in Neuchâtel, Switzerland) is a prominent international curator and contemporary art critic and art historian. He is the Founding Director of the Chalet Society and PAL (Paris Art Lab), Paris; Artistic Advisor for CI Contemporary Istanbul; and Founding Director of Transformer Sculpture Park, Melides, Portugal. He is the former Director of the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, the former Director of Palais de Tokyo, Paris, the former artistic advisor of De Appel Arts Center, Amsterdam, the Founding Editor of Palais/ magazine, the former Director of the Swiss Institute, New York, and the Co-founding Director of the CAN Centre d'art Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

After having studied philosophy and art history in Neuchâtel, Lausanne and Geneva, he began his career as a museum curator in 1992 at the Cantonal Museum of Fine Arts in Lausanne and then at MAMCO in Geneva. In 1995, he co-founded the CAN (Art Center of Neuchâtel) and was its director until 2000, when he became the director of the Swiss Institute in New York (2000-2006).

During the last twenty years, Wahler has organized over 400 exhibitions.

In 2011, he was decorated as a Chevalier in the French Republic's Order of Arts and Letters. In 2013, Wahler was awarded the Meret Oppenheim Prize, Switzerland highest cultural award in the contemporary arts.