

Basel Social Club 2025

Najaax Harun, Nona Inescu

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We are delighted to present new works by Najaax Harun and Nona Inescu as part of Basel Social Club, returning for its fourth edition to inhabit a former private bank in the center of Grossbasel. Unfolding within this recontextualized architecture, this edition of Basel Social Club stages its exhibitions, performances, and culinary offerings in a setting where traditional binaries—currency and care, luxury and necessity, spectacle and service—are actively dismantled.

This conceptual framework finds resonance in works that probe the instability of form, identity, and value. One Harun painting, evocative of duality within a single body, stages a psychological and somatic split: two crouched figures, stitched together yet emotionally disjointed, embody the cohabitation of resilience and fragility, strength and hyper-visibility. The stitched seam and surrounding eyes suggest not only internalized surveillance but also the tension between public legibility and private defense—a microcosm of how bodies, like institutions, are shaped by opposing pressures.

In dialogue, Inescu's installation of mutated daisies—modeled on real botanical deformities from irradiated zones—extends the theme of duality into the ecological realm. The organic anomalies, at once delicate and disfigured, call into question the boundaries between natural mutation and man-made disruption. Here, the floral becomes both a symptom and a monument; unsettling aesthetic conventions and evoking a landscape shaped by unseen systemic forces.

Across both bodies of work, the bank-turned-gallery becomes not merely a site of display, but a space where value is refracted through care, decay, and the complex interdependence of internal and external worlds.