

# Curriculum Vitae

Claire Ochsner is a Swiss sculptor noted for her colorful and unique forms, especially her kinetic pieces. Interested in painting and sculpture since childhood, she completed her studies in mathematics then devoted herself to the fine arts, attending academies in Zurich, Amsterdam, and Basel. At first she worked in children's books, then in painting and graphics, but she soon began to construct mobiles and other large and small sculptures. She is a member of the Swiss professional artists' organization Visarte, and in 2007 – 2014 served on the Basellandschaft Art Commission.

Her studio and gallery in the Basel suburb of Frenkendorf are a singularly imaginative fantasy world, with over 100 of her pieces, pictures and mobiles are displayed in



the indoor gallery. Collaborating with skilled artisans to fabricate her pieces, Ochsner builds them out of contemporary materials --metal, fiberglass reinforced polyester, stainless steel ball bearings, durable exterior paints-utilizing the precision technology that is a Swiss tradition. The sculpture garden is illuminated at night; also popular are guided tours with the artist herself, and concerts held in a dreamlike atmosphere.

In 2015, the Claire Ochsner Art Exhibition House opened in Riehen, opposite the Fondation Beyeler. In addition to Ochs-

ner's first solo show, it has hosted virtual video exhibitions collaborating with guest artists.

The Exhibition House also hold a variety of events, from concerts and guided tours to workshops for an in-depth appreciation of the artworks.

Ochsner has received many awards, and her sculptures and mobiles have been set up in public spaces all over Switzerland. She has also designed building façades. Abroad, her works can be seen in countries including France, the UK, Germany (notably Ulm and Osnabrück), the

Netherlands, India, Canada, China and South Africa.

The focus of her oeuvre is on large, colorful sculptures, many of which move and constantly change shape, powered by renewable energy, (wind, water or solar). Each work, with its brilliant colors, organic shapes, lively motion and floating lightness, is designed to lure the enchanted onlooker into a magical world, awakening a playfulness that is easily forgotten in our busy contemporary society.

Ochsners works appeal to people of all ages, whether lovers of contemporary art or not. No doubt this is because the organic, supple forms that take shape in her hands give the viewer a sense of wonder that can come only from the creative power of nature.