

# Must-see shows



## **Piero Golia** Kunsthaus Baselland

UNTIL 16 JULY

Leave it to Piero Golia, the artist responsible for installing a globe atop West Hollywood's Standard Hotel that lights up like a beacon when he is in town, to bring some theatrics to his solo show at the Kunsthaus Baselland. "You could say that trying to make a traditional exhibition with Golia is well-nigh impossible," writes the museum's director, Ines

Goldbach, in a book on the Italian-born, Los Angeles-based conceptual artist that is due to launch during Art Basel. Referencing the idea of art as merchandise—something bought by the square metre—Golia decided to see whether he could "break the numbers" with the help of robot that possesses an unusual talent: painting. The machine, which weighs several tonnes, has taken over a hallway of the Kunsthaus and has free reign to run back and forth on 14 metres of track, painting abstract and geometric compositions as he (or she) goes. Visitors will play their part in the theatrics as the robot is activated when people approach it. E.S.

## **Golia's machine artist** at work in Basel

Pakui Hardware's Hesitant Hand (2017, detail)

## **Ungestalt** Kunsthalle Basel

UNTIL 13 AUGUST

The Kunsthalle Basel puts our German linguistic and conceptual skills to the test with this sprawling thematic show of Modern and contemporary works. Ambiguously titled Ungestalt (the closest the press statement comes to defining this untranslatable term is "something that both is a form, and actively undoes that form"), the show includes drawing, photography, sculpture, textiles and videos that, in different ways, refuse to follow the rules of form. Spread across the five ground-floor galleries of the venue, the works include existing and newly commissioned works by 17 artists. The Croatian artist Tomo Savic-Gecan's Untitled (2007-17) is one particular formless work that makes its presence known: it is made up of a mechanism that, in 2005, recorded the entry times of visitors to an exhibition in New York and now uses the data to fluctuate the humidity levels within the exhibition space. Among the Modern works are three small-scale, copper-plated erotic casts by Marcel Duchamp. A.D.

