



ART

What to Expect From This Year's Art Basel Miami Beach

By KAT HERRIMAN NOV. 29, 2016



Clockwise from left: performers at "Tide by Side," the parade that inaugurated Faena District Miami Beach on Monday; more parade participants; a view of the new Faena Forum from Collins Avenue.
Clockwise from left: Gato Suaya; Jorge Mina; Mariana Gatto, courtesy of Faena

Zika fears and the postelection comedown couldn't stop the annual pilgrimage to Art Basel Miami Beach. As they say in the business, the show must go on; and in fact, that seems to be the predominant theme for this year's Miami art week. The most dedicated attendees — exhibitors — began touching down on Sunday for the weeklong gauntlet, which runs through Dec. 4. Those collectors and visitors who scheduled early enough flights got the chance to see "Tide by Side," a confetti-fueled parade featuring local dancers, musicians and performers who inaugurated Faena District Miami Beach, the city's new, billion-dollar art and residential complex, on Sunday afternoon. The fanfare continued on Monday night when Faena's ringleader, the Argentine developer Alan Faena, opened the doors of the Faena Forum, a 50,000-square-foot performance space designed by OMA/Rem Koolhaas and Shohei Shigematsu, to a crowd of V.I.P.s eager for a glimpse of its interior.

On Tuesday, the events begin ramping up. During the day, eager shoppers are splitting their time between the previews for Untitled and Design Miami, while others are headed to the de la Cruz Collection and the Margulies Collection at the Warehouse to see the blue-chip holdings of Miami's top collecting families. The real surprise came from the Rubell Family Collection, which announced it will be moving to a new Selldorf Architects-designed space in Miami's Allapattah neighborhood. The new museum is slated to open in December 2018.

On Tuesday night, guests will flow toward Miami's Design District for a night of cocktails hosted by fashion boutiques like Maison Margiela and Dior. Piggybacking off their successful collaboration last year, Gagosian and Jeffrey Deitch will once again take over the Moore Building with a group show named "Desire" curated by Diana Widmaier Picasso, the granddaughter of the late art icon. The sequence continues with the opening of Art Basel Miami Beach tomorrow, with V.I.P.s vying for earlier time slots. (Wednesday at 11 a.m. is the art world's equivalent of Black Friday.)

The week isn't just a prolonged bout of déjà vu. Wednesday night will provide a platform for young art. The stylist David Casavant and artist friends like Eric Mack and Stewart Uoo will launch a new zine celebrating his substantial archive at MRKT Avenue Deux, a luxury concept boutique. Concurrently, Artsy will unveil a trio of new works by digitally minded artists like Jon Rafman, Jacolby Satterwhite and Rachel Rossin under the new Faena art dome — allowing guests the opportunity to immerse themselves in a virtual realm.

Carlos Betancourt's The Pelican Passage.

On Thursday, the festivities will become decidedly more activist-oriented. Sean Kelly, Paddle8 and Absolut Elyx will team up for an art auction benefiting Water for People. Later on, Pussy Riot will take the stage at Nautilus for an activation that will shake off the midweek slump. And of course, by the weekend, the party will be in full force, as will the celebrities. A\$AP Rocky, Madonna and Penn Badgley are all scheduled to make appearances in the neon-lit hotels that line Miami's sprawling beachfront throughout the weekend — and as they arrive, the serious collectors will filter out.

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