

HelwaserGallery

16 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10075
Phone: +1 (646) 649 3744
www.HelwaserGallery.com

2017, December 8. "Art Miami and Context Art Miami Report Strongest Opening Night at Brand New Waterfront Location." Art Daily News International. Web.



Tuesday, December 5th, 2017 **Art Miami** - Miami's longest running contemporary art fair – kicked off its 28th edition alongside its sister fair, **CONTEXT Art Miami** - with its most active VIP Preview to date - at their brand-new waterfront location;. Renowned as one of the nation's leading international contemporary and modern art fairs, both venues had crowds circling the block throughout the entirety of the preview. More than 140 international galleries and 961 artists from 22 different countries and 60 cities unveiled their works to eager art lover and collectors who wait for a year for this magic five days of arts and culture.

Art Miami LLC's Executive Vice President/Director Nick Korniloff and his wife **Pamela Cohen** led a ceremonial ribbon cutting to formally welcome everyone to the fair's new location. City dignitaries including **Commissioner Ken Russell, City of Miami Deputy Police Chief Ronald Papier, NFL Hall of Famer Joe Namath, Director of Pérez Art Museum Miami Franklin Sirmans**, and, and President of Resorts World Bimini **Patricia "Missy" Lawrence** joined them in the celebration.



More than 15,000 of the most established collectors, curators, museum professionals, and art world luminaries attended the first fair to open during **Art Week** to view and acquire Blue Chip and contemporary artists' works. Contributing to a frenzy of sales made within the first hour - most notably - **Sigmar Polke's 2005 "L'oiseau bleu"**, placed by **Galerie Terminus** for approximately \$4 million; **Andy Warhol's 1962 "Marilyn"**, placed

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by **Michael Schultz Gallery** for \$5.5 million; "From Bedroom Painting #42" by **Tom Wesselmann** from 1978/91 and two **Yayoi Kusama** paintings, **Oil No. 7** and **Nets 45**, placed by **Antoine Helwaser Gallery** totalling \$1.5 million; and **Roberto Matta's Cytherance** from 1972, placed by **DIE GALERIE** for \$260,000. Also, **NIKOLA RUKAJ GALLERY** placed two **Alex Katz** pieces titled "**Black Dress**" (Portfolio of Nine), for \$125,000. Each piece is part of a series that releases in 2018; one selling before the fair's opening, and the other one 30 minutes after. **55Bellechasse** placed two pieces by **Metallica's** rock 'n' roll icon **Jason Newsted**; with have the sales revenue donated to the **Perry J. Cohen Foundation**. Several other important works are on hold.

Art Miami and **CONTEXT Art Miami's** VIP Previews were sponsored by **Christie's International Real Estate** to benefit t the **Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM)**; marking the sixth consecutive year that PAMM has been the fair's exclusive VIP Preview benefactor. **Art Miami LLC** has donated over \$150,000 to further the museum's collection and mission. This partnership remains an integral part of **Art Miami's** continued commitment to the city of Miami.

VIP Preview attendees included **Jorge and Darlene Perez, Amar'e Stoudemire, Frank Ocean, Kara Ross** of **UNLEASHED**, private art advisors **Kim Heirston, Lisa Schiff**, and **Kathryn Mikesell, Marvin Ross Friedman** and **Adrienne Bon Haes, Michael andCarolynn Friedman, Jeffrey** and **Debra Wechsler, Mr. Brainwash**, **Jason Newsted** of **Metallica**, **Former NFL player Robert Bailey-** who helped win two national championships \ and artists **Al Diaz** and **Danny Minnick**.

Tito's offered specialty cocktails to VIP guests during the Preview and will continue to serve them throughout the fair; as well as **LaCroix**, the official sparkling water partner sponsor of **Art Miami** and **CONTEXT Art Miami**.



CONTEXT Art Miami also saw impressive attendance at the opening of its sixth edition with collectors, connoisseurs, and artists perusing over 100 galleries featuring 472 artists. Highlights from the first day's sales at **CONTEXT Art Miami** notably included **Adelson Galleries'** placing of "**Innocent**" (**Polar Bear**) by **Federico Uribe** from 2017 for \$180,000 in the first hour of the fair; as well as **Markowicz Fine Art** placing three high value pieces by **Kai** in the first 20-minutes including "**Love Vs Money, Study in Pink**" from 2017 for \$57,000, "**The Cage**" from 2017 for \$50,000 and "**Knowledge Is Power II**" from 2017 for \$35,000.

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Extremely sought after offerings at the fairs included works by **David Hockney, Joseph Albers, Alexander Calder, Cy Twombly, Jean Michel Basquiat, Pablo Picasso, Willem de Kooning, Roy Lichtenstein, John Chamberlain, Damien Hirst, Marc Chagall, Donald Judd, Ed Ruscha, Donald Sultan, Gerhard Richter, Edward Hopper, Keith Haring, Frank Stella, Richard Serra, Anish Kapoor, Robert Rauschenberg, Jeff Koons, Joan Miró, Grayson Perry, and Gavin Turk.**

Special projects at this year's fair that are available to view throughout the week include:

- **Christie's International Real Estate**, together with its international affiliates, is hosting a booth at the main entrance of the fair, featuring luxury residential property offerings from around the world.
- **Deep See Project Curated by Carol Damian** is leveraging the power of art as a means of communication to heighten awareness about climate change, marine safety and conservation, and sea level rise. The installation serves as a platform for artists and organizations dedicated to the sea. Sponsored by the **MIART Foundation**, three prominent environmentally engaged artists, **Tina Spiro, Edouard Duval-Carrie,** and **Jacek Kolasinski**; all of whom have deep ties to Miami and have joined forces to address the awesome power and fragility of the sea and the origin and necessity of life on earth.
- **55Bellechasse** is presenting work by rock 'n' roll icon **Jason Newsted**; a former member of the rock band **Metallica**. **RAWK** is the Grammy Award-winning bassist's second artistic show following his **debut at Art New York**. Half of all sales will be donated to the **Perry J. Cohen Foundation**; an organization devoted to the advancement of the arts, environmental, marine and wildlife education and preservation, teenage entrepreneurship, and boating safety education.
- **UNLEASHED** is an interactive booth at **Art Miami** that focuses on job creation platforms for talented female craft artisans in marginalized areas around the world. The booth shines a spotlight on their talents through media attention in an original content **series "CONNECTING THREAD."** Founded by jewelry designer **Kara Ross**, **UNLEASHED** and **"CONNECTING THREAD"** bring awareness to their skills and creates jobs; in turn breaking the poverty cycle. Craft communities and artisans make up 3.5% of the global GDP. This is **BIG BUSINESS** done on a small scale throughout some of the most impoverished and underserved parts of the world.
- **JW Marriott Marquis Miami** and **Hotel Beaux Arts Miami - Official Luxury Hotel partners of Art Miami** - are hosting a special exhibition in conjunction with the fair of emerging and mid-career international talents on display in the hotel lobby.
- **Young at Art Mini-Museum** - A multisensory interactive art installation for fairgoers' children aged three to 13-years old. Those enrolled in the program will enjoy a unique opportunity to experience innovative workshops, performances, and interactive artworks all led by cutting-edge contemporary artists.
- **LILY NOCHES** - The paintings of Columbian artist **Douglas Mendoza** serve as a stunning backdrop for the launch of the highly-anticipated fashion brand - **LILY NOCHES COLLECTION**; whose premier Spring/Summer 2018 line showcases trims based on his modern abstract paintings. This unique booth is a must-visit with fifty percent

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of **Mendoza's** painting sales and fifty percent of **LILY NOCHES** pre-orders being donated to the fashion brand's co-founder, **Marc Buoniconti's** non-profit organization, **The Buoniconti Fund to Cure Paralysis**.



Running through to December 10th, **Art Miami** and **CONTEXT Art Miami** attract more than 85,000 attendees annually; it is expected that - at their exciting new location on this year the fairs will exceed this number. Nestled between the Venetian Causeway and MacArthur Causeway - and just east of Biscayne Blvd. - the fairs offer an unprecedented level of convenience and a renewed connectivity to the activities and collectors on Miami Beach; with accessible parking, a complimentary shuttle service between fairs, and an Uber service for VIP ticket holders throughout the week. The new location also features amenities that allow visitors to spend an entire day at the fairs. To facilitate the experience, there will be six hospitality areas including a waterfront café, an indoor café, outdoor dining space, cocktail lounge, and an outside cocktail deck overlooking beautiful Biscayne Bay. The 250,000 square-foot cement floor solidifies the fair's commitment to its new location and its continued investment in their beloved city of Miami.