

## Art Basel Miami Beach contemporary art fair marks 10 years



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Kate Gilmore's 'Wall Bearer,'  
2011, C-print, 30 by 40 inches,  
edition of 10, courtesy of David  
Castillo Gallery

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Art Basel Miami Beach fair week is:  
Working your way through the more than 260 booths at the main fair.  
Trying to take in as many of the 18-and-counting satellite fairs.

Considering whether you have the energy to trek to the superabundance of private collector spaces, museum shows, artists' studios, local galleries, pop-up stores, temporary exhibition spaces and other art events.

And let's not forget the parties, dinner dates and catching up with your equally over-extended art-loving friends.

Art Basel Miami Beach kicks off with a VIP opening Wednesday and runs through the weekend at the Miami Beach Convention Center.

The main fair tops Beth Rudin DeWoody's to-do list. But it also includes visiting Design Miami, NADA, Pulse and Art Miami.

She's hosting a book-signing party for a friend at Tomas Maier's Miami boutique, visiting her daughter Kyle's functional art pop-up shop in the Bass Museum of Art and attending parties for the Whitney Museum of American Art and The Wolfsonian-Florida International University museum.

"I'm going to be exhausted going around to everything," she said. "But it will be fun."

Fair week sails in on the winds of the recent contemporary art auctions in New York, when the big three big auction houses racked up more than a half billion dollar's worth of sales and set a raft of new records. "Seeing those results brings buoyancy and confidence to the market," Art Basel Miami Beach co-director Marc Spiegler said. "We expect to have a good show, despite the economic volatility."

Art Basel Miami Beach, which attracted 46,000 visitors last year, is considered the premier contemporary art fair in the Western hemisphere.

The fair is celebrating its 10th anniversary, and organizers are drawing attention to its transformational effect on the surrounding community.

"What's new with the fair this year coincides with what's happened in the last 10 years in Miami and Miami Beach," Spiegler said. "The two newest developments are outside the hall."

The Art Public sector, a collaboration with the Bass Museum of Art this year, will fill Collins Park from the museum to the beach with 24 sculptures and performances.

Over at SoundScape Park, the fair will establish an outpost of Art Video, where it will hold screenings on the 7,000-square-foot projection wall of the new Frank Gehry-designed New World Center.

One way to take in fair week is by joining trips organized by the Armory Art Center, the Norton Museum or The Society of the Four Arts.

Others prefer a less structured approach.

Irene and Jim Karp asked an art consultant friend to help them sift through the deluge of invitations they've received. "I'm looking forward to doing something a little off the beaten path," Irene Karp said.

Ruth and Ted Baum plan to concentrate on fairs, where they will be open to whatever presents itself. "We don't have a wish list," Ted Baum said. "We have an eyeball list."

Fair week figures prominently in the calendar of local galleries, too.

Dominic Tagliatella, who operates galleries in Palm Beach and New York, will showcase his favorite charity, as well as art in Arts for a Better World at the Surfcomber Hotel in Miami Beach.

The fair, which has a social-service as well as a commercial vision, will spotlight the Katherine M. Tagliatella Foundation. The foundation, named for Tagliatella's single mom, provides scholarships for children of single-parent families attending Tagliatella's alma mater, the Mount Carmel-Holy Rosary School in East Harlem New York, as well as art education for the school.

The fair hopes to show other galleries how they can replicate the program in their home towns, co-founder Rod Kukurudz said.

Perhaps no one will be busier than Palm Beach gallerist Sarah Gavlak.

She will participate in the Art Nova section of Art Basel Miami Beach and contribute a video by Mungo Thomson to the screenings in SoundScape Park.

She's showing an Orly Genger rope lounge at fair sponsor NetJets' reception Wednesday. And she's one of a handful of prestigious galleries invited to exhibit at The M Building in the Wynwood district in Miami. It's a bit much, she admits. But "I have to take advantage of the quality of company that's coming," she said. "If that means exhaustion after the week's over, it's worth it."