

VOGUE

These Were the 5 Best Things at Art Basel Miami Beach 2016



Jillian Mayer at “Chambres à Part: Life is Beautiful”
Photo: Azeez Bakare Studios / Courtesy of David Castillo Gallery

Art Basel Miami Beach is famous for providing the type of hyper-stimulating diversions that, in other circumstances, might completely derail a person. Confetti-blasting floats, all-day pool parties, celebrity dinners and starry performances, and oh, yes, of course, the art! Between multiple art fairs, performances, happenings, various pool scenes, and the seeming mass exodus of the international art world, it’s very easy to lose your way—which is why sometimes it’s best to lean on an expert. And who better to call out what’s new and now from Art Basel than José Carlos Diaz, the Milton Fine Curator of Art at the Andy Warhol Museum? (Bonus points: He’s a Miami native.) Below, Diaz selects five standouts that he spied during the festival. Feel free to reference them at your next cocktail party and make like you saw it yourself.

“Chambres à Part: Life is Beautiful”, curated by Laurence Dreyfus

“Dreyfus has the skill to take a private space to combine art and design in a way that introduces younger artists and makers,” says Diaz, who especially liked the works by Miami artists Cristina Lei Rodriguez and Jillian Mayer, noting that “Rodriguez blurs the boundaries of art and design, which brings up the question: What are the rules for art and design to coexist in the same space?”

Faena Art's "Tide by Side" parade, Claire Tancons artistic director

"Public", curated by Nicholas Baume in Collins Park

"Desire", curated by Diana Widmaier Picasso

"The Happy Room", designed by Cristina Celestino and curated by Maria Cristina Didero