

# TOWN&COUNTRY

## What Not to Miss at Art Basel Miami Beach 2019

The tricks, insider's tips, and secret spots of the regulars at America's most elite art fair, taking place now in Miami.

by [HORACIO SILVA](#)

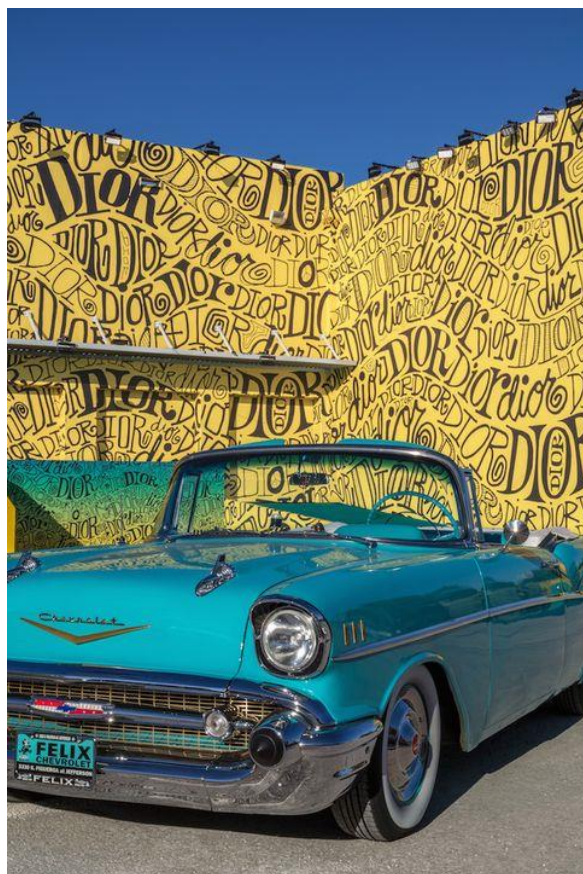
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MATTEO PRANDONI/BFA.COM

Now in its 18th year [Art Basel Miami Beach](#), and the [many satellite fairs and installations](#) around it, offers such an overwhelming serving of [exhibits](#), events and parties that it can sometimes feel like eating too much *dulce de leche*. Here, on the day the fair officially launches, a curated list of the 14 most worthwhile offerings and events around town and open to the public.

### 1 The New Rubell Museum



KRIS TAMBURELLO

[Don and Mera Rubell](#) know Miami real estate. They, more than anyone, defined the Wynwood District 26 years ago when they took over a former U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency evidence warehouse to house their namesake collection. Now, they've laid claim to another formerly blighted neighborhood, Allapattah, for their rechristened Rubell Museum. It's enjoying a start-studded opening week that culminated on Tuesday night with Dior's Fall 2020 men's show, for which artistic director Kim Jones took over one of the Rubells' warehouses to stage a fashion show and then a concert outside featuring Orville Peck. The sprawling size of the venue allows for the Rubells to showcase their vast and eclectic collection. *The Rubell Museum is open all week, 1100 NW 23rd St., Miami.*

## 2 Bigger Basel



CINDY ORD GETTY  
IMAGES

The big news out of the marquee art fair this year is the addition of a new sector, Meridians, dedicated to large-scale art works. Mexico City-based Magalí Arriola, responsible for Mexico's entry in the 58th Venice Biennale, has convened a murderer's row of artists, from Jose Davila and Joe Overstreet to Portia Munson and

Pepe Mar, to showcase around 30 projects that push the boundaries of the kind of work that can be shown in a fair setting. *Open all week in the Grand Ballroom of the Miami Beach Convention Center, 1901 Convention Center Dr., Miami Beach.*

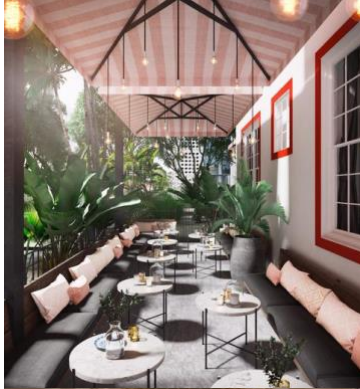
## 3 Faena Festival



ORIOI TARRIDAS

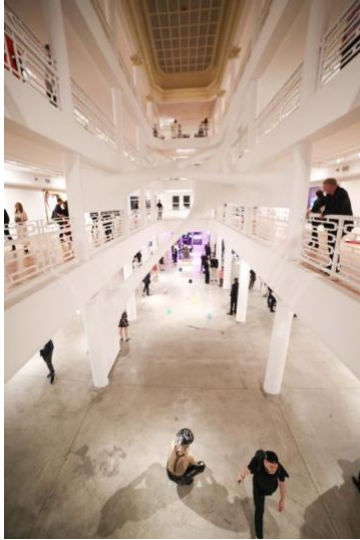
[Alan Faena's](#) second annual Faena Festival, again curated by the formidable Zoe Lukov, is themed around "The Last Supper" and serves up plenty of food for thought about what we eat, how it nourishes our spiritual lives, and intersects with aesthetics and the culture at large. In addition to new commissions being shown in and around the property—and in the

ocean—there will be a cinema series with nightly screenings, and culinary activations and shared meals by Jim Denevan, Lunafridge, and Francis Mallmann, among others. Plus, there's the stage version of [The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover](#) is playing at the [Faena Theater](#) with a menu by Michelle Bernstein. *All programs are free and open to the public, December 2nd through the eighth, at the Faena Hotel, 3201 Collins Ave, Miami Beach.*



#### 4Gitano Miami

Adding a third destination to [Tulum](#) and New York City, Gitano Miami opens this week at the recently revamped Casa Faena, a 40-room boutique hotel in the Faena District. The South Beach chapter offers a full-service restaurant and bar on the ground level, serving Gitano's elevated take on Mexican and Mayan fare, and a sprawling rooftop garden (one of the best on the beach). *Open all week, 3500 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach.*



#### 5Jeffrey Deitch X Gagosian

WILLIAM BYRD

Tuesday is often the day many people devote to the goings-on in the Design District. That means a mandatory pit stop at Larry Gagosian and Jeffrey Deitch's joint thematic exhibition at the historic Moore Building, this time focusing on the idea of "The Extreme Present." *On view, all week, 191 NE 40 th Street, Miami.*



#### 6Thom's Tree

JOHN PARRA GETTY IMAGES

[Thom Browne](#) sells tiny shorts and big ideas. The conceptual designer known for his attenuated trousers and musings on the America of the imagination unveils his first large-scale public artwork at The Moore Building: "Palm Tree I" (2019)—a 21-foot tall palm constructed from colorful preppy staples, seersucker, pincord, and gingham oxford. *Open all week, Moore Atrium, 4040 NE 2nd Avenue, Miami.*

#### 7Hello, Miami



## SASKIA LAWAKS

Across the street, an option for all the moneybags in town to indulge in their favorite activity: shopping! Mira Mikati and Just An Idea's Sarah Andelman (formerly of the defunct and much beloved Paris store Colette) have opened a pop-up store called Hello, Miami. Among the offerings at this temporary, feel-good space

is [Superflower](#), a line of CBD skincare, and a pop-y range of carryalls, from satchels to Dopp kits and tote bags, in a limited-edition alphabet print from L/UNIFORM. *Open through Sunday, December 8th, from 11am to 8pm every day, in the Moore Building in the Design District. 180 NE 40th Street, Miami.*

## 8 Rashaad Newsome's King of Arms Art Ball



## JOSH BRASTED GETTY IMAGES

If you're a member of Soho House, or know friends who are, don't miss the live ballroom experience created by artist Rashaad Newsome. This event brings together members of the LGBTQ+ ballroom community and heavy-hitters from the worlds of art, fashion, and music, duking it out on the runway and competing for

tens across the board. *December 4th, Beach Tent at Soho House, 4385 Collins Ave, 9 p.m.—1 a.m.*



## 9 Gregory's Diner

GESI SCHILLING

The early half of the week is also a good time to try for a reservation at Gregory's Diner, the jumping All-American joint that opened last month in the newly renovated Vagabond Hotel in the MiMo District. Anastasia Koutsioukis and Ahmet Erkaya, the husband and wife duo behind the beloved Mandolin Aegean Bistro, have

partnered with general manager Tamara Magalhães and executive chef Roel Alcudia, to open a veg-forward, artisanal nod to classic American diners and, specifically, to the one that Anastasia's Greek-immigrant family had in the 1950s. *Open all week, 7301 Biscayne Blvd, Miami.*



## 10 Art at Brickell City Centre

It's not just hotels that have muscled into the art space (FYI, East Miami has a must-see Carlos Bettancourt installation in the lobby): malls are the new galleries. To wit: *Conversations in Nature*, a new exhibition at the [Brickell City Centre](#) curated by Albie Alexander, examines our connection to the natural world through artwork and programming within the open-air shopping center during the week. Highlights include

Basia Goszczyńska's Legacy Oasis, "a life-sized sand pit contaminated

with microplastics, marine debris and beach toys" (pictured) that visitors are invited to be variously moved by and interact with. *Open all week, Brickell City Centre, 701 S Miami Ave., Miami.*



## 11 Vanessa Beecroft Performance

PIER MARCO TACCA  
GETTY IMAGES

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Italian sportswear brand Kappa's classic "Omini" logo, featuring unmistakable silhouettes of a man and woman sitting with their backs to one another, will be made flesh in a tableau vivant by renowned Italian conceptual artist

Vanessa Beecroft, curated by Neville Wakefield. *December 4th, 5:30 p.m.-8 p.m., Lot 11 Skate Park, 348 NW 2nd Street, Miami.*



## 12 Montauk in Miami

SEAN ZANNIGETTY  
IMAGES

If ever there was a time to get your bliss on it's during Miami Art Week. A big "namaste" then for the Surf Lodge's daily wellness activations on the great lawn at W South Beach. The Montauk mainstay offers Wednesday and Thursday classes taught by Isaac Calpito, a Madonna favorite, and Friday's class will be taught by celebrity instructor Megan Roup. Saturday's class will be taught by Casey Simmons. *Starting today through Friday at the W*

*South Beach hotel, 2201 Collins Ave, Miami Beach.*



### 13 The Bottega Diner

It is a little-known fact of Art Basel Miami Beach week that eventually all roads lead to Twist, the semi-infamous gay club that's been a local fixture since the days when South Beach was mainly known for its foam parties and the Versace mansion, not its cultural cachet. So it was a clever stroke of genius when designer **Daniel Lee** decided to take over the

24-hour diner next door, paint it gold, and hang up a neon marquee declaring it The Bottega Diner for the week. Now, after everyone inevitably clears the dance-floor, they can swing by the prettified diner for a burger and a spiked milkshake called the "All-Nighter." *Open until Dec. 14, 1065 Washington Ave., Miami Beach.*



### 14 Prestige Imports

If fast cars are more your speed, the luxury auto dealer Prestige Imports pop-up features a collection of Supercars and Hypercars. The space serves as a museum, showcasing automotive art and a rotating roster of vehicles, focusing on Pagani and ranging in total value from \$10 million to over \$50 million. Additionally,

architectural pieces from Luminaire and art from David Rosen Galleries will be rotated throughout the week. *Open all week, Buick Building, 3841 NE 2nd Ave, Miami.*