

Top Results for Art Basel Miami Beach

Miami Beach, Florida – The third edition of Art Basel Miami Beach, the international art show, closed on Sunday, December 5, 2004. Outstanding works of art, good to excellent sales, a high-caliber international audience: Art Basel Miami Beach has impressively confirmed and enhanced its position as the leading art fair for contemporary art on the American continent. The exhibiting galleries, world press, and international visitors gave Art Basel Miami Beach the highest marks, describing it as a successful, exciting event. 190 galleries from the USA, Latin America, Europe, Asia, and Africa actively took part, with a record number of 33'000 visitors and 800 representatives of the media which greatly exceeded last years count. Samuel Keller, Director of Art Basel Miami Beach, was gratified by the results: «The third edition of Art Basel Miami Beach was a festival of art. The participating galleries did their utmost to present their artists' finest works in Miami and were richly rewarded for their efforts. The appetite for contemporary art has never been stronger.»

Art Basel Miami Beach is an event that combines an art show with an exciting program of special exhibitions, panel discussions, visits to private art collections, and crossover events featuring music, film, architecture, and design. The mild South Florida weather welcomed a record number of the multicultural 33'000 visitors from every continent to Miami Beach. The 190 leading galleries from the world's major art capitals, the international press, and the public agreed that the third Art Basel Miami Beach was an overwhelming success. Thanks to its prominent line-up of participants and its wide range of international visitors, Art Basel Miami Beach has impressively confirmed its reputation as the foremost contemporary art fair on the American continent.

Art Basel Miami Beach attracted thousands of leading collectors, artists, curators, art critics, art dealers, and art lovers from around the globe. 800 representatives of the print, radio and television media visited the international art event.

Art Basel Miami Beach had the privilege of welcoming 6'000 prominent guests to the Vernissage preceding the official opening.

More than 80 museum groups from all over the world flocked to Art Basel Miami Beach. New York delegations came from the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, and the New Museum of Contemporary Art. Further groups came from the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburg, the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Seattle Art Museum, the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Museum of Fine Art in Houston, and from over thirty other US cities. There were also museum and collector groups from Canada, Germany, Russia, Great Britain, Switzerland, Ireland, Spain, and most of the Latin American countries. Curators and private collectors from all of the world's major art capitals were able to gather information on the best that the international art market has to offer. The art experts present rated the works on display as excellent in quality and fresh to the market. The exhibiting galleries spared no effort to present the most interesting works of art in carefully designed exhibitions. Various booths showed thematically grouped exhibits and one-person shows of artists. Many galleries presented newly created pieces, video works, and large installations.

The «Art Sound Lounge» introduced in and around the pool of the Delano Hotel this year was an enormous success. Daily from noon till midnight, interested visitors were able to go to the hotel's pool and subtropical gardens to enjoy audio pieces by contemporary artists and musicians such as Elliott Sharp, Christian Marclay, Malcolm McClaren, Lou Reed, John Cale, Rodney Graham, Hermann Nitsch, and others. The internet radio station WPS1.org broadcast the latest news on Art Basel Miami Beach for three hours every day.

The newly expanded «Art Nova» sector, where 22 galleries from 12 countries received a chance to show the latest works by two to four of their artists at reduced rates, was a magnet for visitors and the media alike.

The special sectors that attracted the greatest attention at the art show were the «Art Positions» container village on beautiful South Beach, sponsored by Terra International Developers, and the architecturally futuristic «Art Video Lounge,» sponsored by Artécity, at the Miami Beach Public Library. In «Art Positions,» 20 young galleries from eight countries benefited from the more economical rates to show their cutting-edge programs. The international audience gathered there for a Happy Hour on the beach every evening, enjoying the sunset to the accompaniment of hot rhythms and cold drinks. The highlight of the opening night of «Art Positions» was an electrifying performance by Britain's «Scissor Sisters.» The program of the latest video works by artists from around the globe, curated by Sandra Antelo-Suarez (TRANS>, New York) and Guillermo Santamarina (curator, Mexico City), sponsored by Artécity, attracted an interested audience.

«Art Statements» – 15 one-person shows of young artists from seven countries at the Miami Beach Convention Center – proved a further notable crowd puller. The participants were very pleased with the popularity of this platform, which not only rewarded them with good sales but also brought them contacts with a great many curators and aroused considerable media interest.

Individual visitors and families alike made substantial use of the daily guided tours in English and Spanish and of the «Art Kids» kindergarten, both organized in collaboration with the art magazine Art Nexus.

The public's appetite for contemporary art appears to be stronger than ever. According to surveys by the Show Management, all the exhibiting galleries succeeded in finding interested purchasers for their works. The majority of participants spoke of good to excellent sales results. Pieces in all price categories were purchased, from works by young artists costing less than US \$5,000 to museum-quality masterpieces with price tags in the millions. It is gratifying that works by young, sometimes still unknown, artists also sold excellently. The international art market is strongly supported by private collectors, while most public institutions still have access to limited funds. The number of private and public museums worldwide is growing. According to statements by many galleries at Art Basel Miami Beach, there is fortunately no lack of young collectors. Society's interest in contemporary art and its pacesetters has risen sharply over the past few years.

We sold to museums and to wonderful collectors. If last year was very good, this year was great.

Lorenzo Fiaschi, Director Galleria Continua San Gimignano
Italy

The show was outstanding and this was our best year yet.
Jeannie Freilich, Senior Director, Marian Goodman Gallery,
New York, NY

*This year we met a lot of new collectors; younger collectors
with a strong American base. Things went very well.*
Thaddaeus Ropac, Thaddaeus Ropac Gallery, Paris, France

*This show is phenomenal. Without question the best art event,
period.*
Milles McEnery, Director Ameringer & Yohe, New York, NY

*This year there were more collectors with keen interest and
time to look at the work. This was the best year yet.*
Karsten Greve, St Moritz, Cologne, Milan, Paris

*Art Basel Miami Beach is defiantly the best show in America.
Beyond that it has a special mission to educate new collectors
and the public.*
Robert Landau, Landau Gallery, Montreal, Canada

*We are very happy with the show because we were able to
show and to sell very complicated work to a very sophisticated
audience.*
Andrzej Prywara, Director Foksal Gallery Foundation,
Warsaw
Poland

*This was a very good year and we were very successful, and
we were able to create deeper and more long lasting relations
with collectors, benefiting for the more relaxed atmosphere.*
Kerstin Wahala, Director, Galeria Eigen + Art, Leipzig, Germany

We sold to a very large scope of enthusiastic collectors, from major museums, to important collections, who appreciated the possibility to really discover the work of a single artist in some depth.

Christine Ollier, Artistic Director, Galerie Les Filles du Calvaire, Paris, France, and Brussels, Belgium

«2004 has proven to be another successful and exciting Art Basel Miami Beach,» said John Costas, Chairman and CEO of UBS Investment Bank. «UBS is proud to have been a sponsor for the third consecutive year and we look forward to next year's show.»

The second edition of «Art Basel Conversations,» organized in collaboration with Bulgari, was an enormous success and attracted large audiences. The forum featured prominent experts – including Dr. Daniel Birnbaum, Director of Portikus, Frankfurt am Main; Janet Cardiff, artist, Berlin; Jenny Holzer, artist, New York; Rem Koolhaas, architect, OMA, Rotterdam; Jeff Koons, artist, New York; Ernesto Neto, artist, Rio de Janeiro; Paloma Botín, Advisor to the Art Collection Grupo Santander, Santander/Madrid; Ricardo Sardenberg, Artistic Director, CACI Foundation, Bella Horizonté; Antoine de Galbert, founder of La Maison Rouge, Paris; Marieluisse Hessel, private collector, founder of the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, New York; Kathy Halbreich, Director, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Hans Ulrich Obrist, Curator, Museum of Modern Art, Paris; Terence Riley, Curator of Architecture, Museum of Modern Art, New York; Rosa Martinez, Co-Director of the Venice Biennale, 2005, Barcelona; and Sheena Wagstaff, Head of Exhibitions and Displays, Tate Modern, London – discussing subjects relating to the exhibition and collection of art.

The extensive program of receptions, events, and panel discussions mounted in conjunction with Art Basel Miami Beach attracted a large international audience. The energy of the social side of Art Basel Miami Beach lived up to its legendary reputation, with the host sponsor, Morgans Hotel Group, making the Delano and The Shore Club available for the Art Bar and the Art Lounge – both offering an exciting program of DJs every night. The concept of crossover events with film, design, and music was very effective. The film night, where Bob Colacello, former editor of Andy Warhol's magazine «Interview» presented Paul Morrissey's movie «Trash,» which was attended by several hundred guests. The «Art Loves Architecture» event, with Philippe Starck, and the puppet rock opera «Don't Trust Anyone Over Thirty,» featuring Dan Graham, Tony Oursler, Paul McCarthy, Rodney Graham, Sonic Youth's Kim Gordon and Thurston Moore, which made its world premiere during the international art show, were enormously popular. The «Boat Tours,» which allowed visitors to view outdoor sculptures and installations from the collections of George Lindemann, Jr., Susan and Dennis Richard, Craig Robins, Michelle and Jason Rubell, and Debra and Dennis Scholl from the water, were already booked out before Art Basel Miami Beach opened its doors.

The book launch of «Do it again,» edited by Hans-Ulrich Obrist (Curator, Museum of Modern Art, Paris) and containing 150 sets of instructions on how to make art yourself, also engaged substantial audience interest. Among the artists attending the event were Marina Abramovic, Lawrence Weiner, Trisha Donnelly, Yoko Ono (by telephone), and Bertrand Lavier. Other book launch events included Olivier Widmaier-Picasso, Terry Richardson and *visionaire*. Many other famous artists such as Robert Rauschenberg, Richard Tuttle, James Rosenquist, Richard Prince and many others visited Art Basel Miami Beach.

The greatest crowd magnet was the «Art Loves Design» party in the Design District of Miami on Saturday night. Over 10,000 visitors were attracted by the many art and design exhibitions. Another popular feature was the series of visits organized by Art Basel Miami Beach to Greater Miami's most important private art collections (The Margulies Collection at the Warehouse, Rubell Family Collection, Rosa & Carlos de la Cruz Collection, Debra & Dennis Scholl Collection, Michelle & Jason Rubell Collection, Dacra Collection, Ruth & Richard Shack Collection, Monica & Javier G. Mora Collection), which generously opened their doors to the international public. The museums of South Florida spared no effort to present interesting special exhibitions and also reported thousands of visitors during Art Basel Miami Beach. BMW provided a limousine service to take VIP guests around Greater Miami. Netjets flew in a record number of VIP visitors from around the globe.

Cooperation with the representatives of the City of Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County worked excellently and contributed significantly to the success of this cultural event. The Host Committee, consisting of 200 leading members of the cultural, political, and business communities and headed by Chairpersons Norman and Irma Braman, made sure that the international guests felt at home in South Florida. The Art Basel Miami Beach Jr. Host Committee, chaired by Juan Carlos Arcila-Duque, Susanne Birbragher, and Jason & Michelle Rubell, also contributed significantly to the success of the event.

The elaborately designed catalog, which provides an extensive overview of works currently obtainable on the international art market, was very popular among visitors. A few copies are still available from D.A.P. in New York (toll-free phone +1/800 338 2665, fax +1/212 627 9484) for the USA or from Hatje Cantz Publishers in Germany: fax +49/711 4405 220 (payment by credit card).

In summary

The third edition of Art Basel Miami Beach once again received glowing praise from the international art world and the people of South Florida. The high quality of the works, the broad array of artistic genres on display, the excellent sales, and the glittering supporting events made Art Basel Miami Beach a complete and exciting success. Art Basel Miami Beach has impressively confirmed its reputation as the leading art show for contemporary art on the American continent and remains the favorite winter meeting place of the international art world. The next Art Basel Miami Beach will be held from December 1 through 4, 2005.

Art 36 Basel

Art 36 Basel, Switzerland, runs from June 15 through 20, 2005. Of the over 800 galleries from all continents that applied, the Art Committee has chosen 270 to participate. They will exhibit works by over 1,500 artists of the 20th and 21st centuries. Special sectors will present one-person shows by young artists, graphics, and films. The «Art Unlimited» hall will offer artists and gallery owners a platform for large-scale works that exceed the scope of exhibition booths at art shows and frequently of galleries, museums, and other traditional venues for the presentation of art as well. The «Art Unlimited» hall will also offer publishers from all over the world a place to present new artist books, which tend to be only marginally represented at other art fairs. «Professional Day,» initiated with such success last year, will be taking place on Friday, June 17 this year. It is directed at museum professionals, dealers, and collectors. Also on the agenda are «Art Basel Conversations,» presenting leading figures from the international art world. Art Basel is Europe's largest and most important art show, and numbers among the European continent's most prestigious cultural events.

International Press

*Das neue «Cannes» der Kunstwelt - Erfolgsrezept. Art Basel
Miami Beach*

Neue Zürcher Zeitung

Art Basel Miami Beach, passage obligé des amateurs d'art

Le Figaro, Paris

*Es gibt derzeit keine Kunstmesse auf der Welt, die eine ganze
Stadt in ein einziges Kulturevent verwandelt*

DIE WELT, Berlin

Art Basel Miami Beach, una mestre brillante del arte mundial

El Nuevo Herald, Miami

PR Closing report / December 2004

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