

Baer Faxt
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More on the Miami Art Fairs

The Pulse Miami Art Fair reported sales of \$9 million and attendance of 12,000.

Some interesting comments from readers: "The recent ArtBaselMiamiBeach art fair has proven that the focus of such events is increasingly on the parties, the lounges, the entertainment, the glitterati and movie stars, the private parties, private jets and stretch Hummers, the PR agents, the models, and the excesses of food, drink and money. This would be tolerable except that art now comes across as little more than a pretext, a justification for these multi-zillion dollar blow-outs. Does it matter anymore if the art at these fairs is any good? And, if so, to whom does it matter."

Also some generalized remarks from various people who wonder about the phenomenon of young artists going "from "zero to sixty" in a week through the consensus of dealers, magazine and collectors. One of the most interesting things was the emergence of Josh Smith and Sterling Ruby as household names, in almost instantaneous meteoric fashion. This was something a lot of people were talking about (and we imply nothing about the quality, or lack there of any of these artists).

Other things on people's minds were the role of the local mega collections and the methodology of how some of them operate.

Perhaps the "biggest" story would a better category of question than "best" stories of the week

Poll Results

Best Booth : Gavin Brown, and in particular, the Urs Fischer work.

Best Single Work: Aaron Young at the Harris Lieberman container at the beach.

Best Fair: a surprising tie between Pulse and the main one, with votes for Scope and Nada.

Best Emerging Artist: Mark Bradford.