

# NEW YORK

## 10 Important Things Actually Happened at Art Basel Miami Beach

By Rachel Corbett, 12/10/2014 at 1:01 PM

Miami's annual art-world circus opened a week ago today, and it's been a bit of a blur. It's probably even been a blur to read about. And as the hand-stamps fade and the pixie dust settles, we're starting to ask ourselves: What did we really take away from Miami's art fair this year? What actually important things happened between the celebrity DJs and Disaronno bars? Here's a list of ten.

### 1. Miamians joined in nationwide protests.

Those who weren't blinded by the glare of Jeff Koons balloons at the fair's VIP preview on Wednesday probably noticed that a grand jury did not indict the policeman who killed Eric Garner. A few days later, "Shut It Down" protesters blocked off I-95 to protest the decision. Many also commemorated the loss of 18-year-old Miami graffiti artist Israel "Reefa" Hernández-Llach, who died after police Tasered him last year. For an event where a text painting counts as a bold political statement, in a city with a reputation for superficial, this was ... something.

### 2. The coronation of Lucy Dodd.

The abstract painter's "thumping epic 25-foot-wide painting installed at the Rubell Family Collection was \*the\* standout artwork of the week by any young (-ish) artist anywhere, in all of Miami Beach," wrote the art adviser Todd Levin on his Facebook page — a sentiment that was echoed throughout the week. It was this kind of show at the Rubells' that launched the stratospheric rise of Oscar Murillo two years ago, so ...

### 3. The Edition is the new Delano.

Hotelier Ian Schrager first introduced his luxury brand to South Beach with the Delano in 1995. But this year, many of the parties moved upshore to his latest "lifestyle property," the Edition, which comes complete with a basement bowling alley and ice-skating rink. The hotel was out of the way, and its public spaces made it look something like a brothel from the future, but somehow, it managed to be the center of things almost every night (maybe thanks to the free rooms Schrager handed out to Marina Abramovic, Klaus Biesenbach, and friends?).

### 4. Dance is the next big thing.

One of the most-talked-about works of the week was Ryan McNamara's immersive (and very sold-out) performance, "MEEM 4 MIAMI: a Story Ballet About the Internet." Meanwhile, Ryan Heffington, the choreographer behind Sia's "Chandelier" video, which has nearly 370 million YouTube views to date, staged a "punk-rock water ballet" at the Ritz Carlton South Beach, and the Shen Wei Dance Company performed at the annual Artsy dance party.

### 5. Younger artists stole the show — though the collectors calling those showing at ABMB and NADA "really emerging" artists are probably kidding themselves.

"One drawing was sold to another collector as my wife and I were holding it in our hands considering it," said the New York collector Peter Hort about his experience at NADA. He also noticed that Van Hanos and Jamian Juliano-Villani, who had work at Tanya Leighton's Art Basel booth, were "talked about everywhere." In other parts of the fair, the writer and dealer Kenny Schachter noticed a "tussle between two (very) determined buyers over a skinny little \$5,000 Katherine Bernhardt cigarette painting." Levin pointed to the Burundi-born artist Serge