18 New Dealers to Watch at Art Basel in Miami Beach

by Margaret Carrigan and Casey Lesser
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Now in its 16th edition, Art Basel in Miami Beach kicks off this week, capping off a momentous year in art—from the one-two punch of the Venice Biennale and Documenta 14, to the fanfare of last month’s $450 million Leonardo da Vinci sale at Christie’s.

Miami Art Week’s hallmark fair is known to corral the world’s leading galleries within the sprawling Miami Beach Convention Center, but the fair actually welcomes a range of exhibitors, from respected young programs to blue-chip mainstays, with fresh faces from across that spectrum joining each year. As over 260 galleries from 32 countries touch down in Miami Beach for the 2017 fair, we caught up with 18 dealers, from Houston to Shanghai, as they prepared to make their debut appearances at Art Basel in Miami Beach.

David Lewis Gallery

LOCATION
New York

FOUNDED
2013

ON VIEW AT ART BASEL IN MIAMI BEACH
Nova, Booth N20

WORKS BY
Lucy Dodd and Dawn Kasper

Portrait of David Lewis (Founder) and Dmitry Komis (Director). Courtesy of David Lewis Gallery.
Since opening in Manhattan’s Chinatown four years ago, David Lewis has amassed a stable of emerging and established artists including Jared Madere, Dawn Kasper, Lucy Dodd, and Greg Parma Smith. Recent additions include Pictures Generation icon Barbara Bloom and feminist pioneer Mary Beth Edelson.

For the gallery’s first foray into Art Basel in Miami Beach, on view in the Nova sector, it is presenting a new, large-scale biomorphic painting by Dodd and new hanging sculptures, called “chandeliers,” by Kasper, which are made from cans, bulbs, and musical instruments.

According to Lewis and gallery director Dmitry Komis, participating in this year’s edition of the fair was “important for the gallery and these two artists at this particular moment of development,” since both artists are “coming off high-profile institutional engagements.” Kasper’s performative installation The Sun, The Moon, and The Stars (2017) was showcased in Christine Macel’s “Viva Arte Viva” exhibition at the 2017 Venice Biennale. Art Basel in Miami Beach will mark Dodd’s first showing in the U.S. since her solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art in 2016.

Lewis’s presentation offers a personal as well as professional reward for the two artists. “This is actually the first time their work will be shown together, despite over a two-decade long friendship and collaboration,” Lewis says.