

See the Top Booths at Dallas Art Fair 2016

The eighth annual Dallas Art Fair opened its doors yesterday morning for a media preview at the Fashion Industry Gallery (aka F.I.G) in the city's downtown district. The fair officially opens to the public April 15 and runs through Sunday, April 17.

The fair's fast-rising reputation as a destination for a vast range of contemporary artworks from a dynamic selection of international exhibitors, is obvious from the number of new and returning dealers we spoke with at the opening.

During a press preview yesterday morning, Dallas Art Museum senior curator Gavin Delahunty announced the first selections of the new Dallas Art Fair Foundation Acquisition Program, which provides the museum with \$50,000 to acquire work by artists exhibited at the fair.

As a result, the museum is acquiring nine works by four artists: Michelle Grabner from Milwaukee's Green Gallery; Nadia Kaabi-Linke from Lawrie Shabibi gallery in Dubai; Merlin James from Dublin's Kerlin Gallery; and Lina Puerta from Geary Contemporary in New York.

While strolling through the fair, you won't miss the new DMA acquisitions. And while you're at it, see our own picks below for the latest edition of this eclectic, vibrant fair.

1. Antwerp's **Tim Van Laere Gallery** immediately caught our eye with a bold mix of works by Jonathan Meese, Kati Heck, Rinus Van De Velde, Ed Templeton, and Henk Visch.

2. London gallery **10 Hanover** is showing an arresting multi-panel work, *Hopscotch 2*, by Austrian painter Stylianos Schicho. Also on display is a collage photo work from Richard Prince's "Publicity" series, showing a mix of celebs like Raquel Welch, Pamela Anderson, and supermodel Bridget Hall, sporting stars-and-stripe-themed bikinis in autographed publicity photos alongside the artist's appropriated shots of women in flag-themed bathing suits.

3. A highlight at London's **Carroll/Fletcher Gallery** are several works from Taylor Holland's "Frames" series, in which the artist fills antique frames with algorithmic reproductions of themselves using molds from digital processes. Also on display are works by Richard T. Walker, James Clar, and Mishka Henner.

4. New York gallerist **Peter Makebish** is a first-time exhibitor who was encouraged to make an appearance after having visited previous editions of the fair. His gallery is displaying compelling work by Paul Kremer, Bill Saylor, Les Rogers, and Wallace Whitney.

5. Another first-time exhibitor is Los Angeles gallery **Honor Fraser**, which is opting for a solo show of works by artist Sarah Cain for its first outing. We talked with gallery director Corrina Peipon about how Cain adapts what typically starts out as massive, site-specific

works into smaller, but still autobiographical works such as *Hawaii With You Take Two*, with day-glo neon colors that reveal actual sand and coral embedded in the canvas.

6. New York gallerist **Johannes Voght** praised the "intimate" feel of the fair, saying it feels as if you're "visiting someone's house." Along with an arresting abstract work by Colombian artist Alejandro Ospina, Voght Gallery is displaying work by Margaux Ogden, Umar Rashid, Garth Evans, Marc Horowitz, and Larissa Lockshin.

7. Dallas gallery Cris Worley Fine Arts showed a strong selection of work, particularly some paintings we loved, by a host of its stable of artists. Realist painter Patti Oleon's *The Bath* (2015) was inspired by a recent trip to Turkey, while French-born artist Isabelle Du Toit's expertly rendered bald eagle duo set against a black background, *Conservation II* (2016), reflects her deep interest in wildlife conservation.



Left: Patti Oleon, *The Bath*, 2015, oil on panel, 40 x 30 inches
Right: Isabelle duToit, *Conservation II*, 2016, oil on canvas, 48 x 72 inches

-EILEEN KINSELLA