



AQUA ART MIAMI CELEBRATES 14TH EDITION WITH 52 INTERNATIONAL GALLERIES PRESENTING FRESH WORKS, COMPELLING INSTALLATIONS AND ENGAGING SPECIAL PROJECTS FROM 135 ARTISTS

(Miami Beach, Florida – December 5, 2018 - December 9, 2018)

(MIAMI, FL – October 18, 2018) – **Aqua Art Miami** (<http://www.aquaartmiami.com>) will kick off its 14th edition at the Aqua Hotel (1530 Collins Avenue Miami Beach, FL 33139) with a VIP Preview on Wednesday, December 5th before opening to the public December 6th - 9th, 2018. The energetic preview has become the destination for influential collectors and art professionals, many of whom migrate from Aqua's sister fairs, Art Miami and CONTEXT conveniently nestled between the Venetian Causeway and the MacArthur Causeways, and Art Basel Miami Beach, which is located just a few blocks away.

Aqua Art Miami is the premier location for art aficionados to procure works by young, emerging and mid-career artists. Throughout the years, the fair has continued to solidify itself as a completely unique art fair, consistently staying true to its signature relaxed yet energetic vibe. The 2018 edition will present 52 international exhibitors from 12 countries who will showcase the fresh works of 135 artists in the intimate exhibition rooms, which open into the beautiful courtyard of the classic South Beach hotel.

2018 AQUA ART MIAMI EXHIBITOR LIST

212 Arts | New York; **AC Contemporary** | Buenos Aires; **Alessandro Berni Gallery** | Perugia; **Art In The Game** | London; **ArtApparent** | Miami; **ArtHelix Gallery/SHIM** | Brooklyn; **Artig / SHIM** | Brooklyn; **Artsaroma** | New Delhi; **ASMP (American Society of Media Photographers)** | New York; **Aureus Contemporary** | Fort Collins; **BB Giordano** | Boynton Beach; **belenmorenoSTUDIO** | New York; **BEN Gallery** | Guangzhou & Paris; **Blackship** | Miami; **BoxHeart Gallery** | Pittsburg; **BP PROJECT : MARYAM ALAKBARLI** | Baku & Paris; **Bridgette Mayer Gallery** | Philadelphia; **CityArts Factory** | Orlando; **Elizabeth Clement Fine Art** | Boston & New York; **Ernest G. Welch School of Art & Design, Georgia State University** | Atlanta; **EXHIBIT A** | Corning; **FF-1051 Gallery** | Los Angeles; **Fine Art Consultancy** | London & Tokyo; **Gallery Quinze** | Pau; **Gitter & Frasca** | Miami Beach; **HG Contemporary** | New York; **Imlay Gallery** | Montclair; **IRREVERSIBLE PROJECTS** | Miami; **John Sanchez Studio** | Miami; **Kevin Berlin Studio** | New York; **MID4ART** | Miami; **Orit Fuchs** | Tel Aviv; **Parsons Close Project** | Springs, NY; **reference: contemporary** | Toronto; **Robert Fontaine Gallery** | Miami; **RW Art** | Washington, D.C.; **SCAI** | Seoul; **Skip Hartzell Gallery** | Port St. Lucie; **Space 776** | Brooklyn; **standARTE** | Madrid; **Steidel Contemporary** | London & Palm Beach; **Stella Ripley** | Québec; **Stephen Wilson** | Charlotte; **Studio Casey Waterman** | Miami Beach; **SuperChief** | Queens; **The Lawley Art Group** | Dallas; **Uncommon Beauty Gallery** | New York; **VAN GOGH Art Gallery** | Madrid; **Vicky Barranguet** | New York; **Whitespace Collection** | West Palm Beach; **Wolf & Nomad** | Miami; **Wynwood 28 | Art Gallery** | Miami

Special Projects and Highlights:

- **InkMinx Mobile Tattoo Tent, presented by ArtHelix Gallery/SHIM Network** (Brooklyn)
Located at the fair's entrance, InkMinx Mobile Tattoo Tent will feature three female artists, acting as a social hub that encourages viewers to enter in and share the artists' energy. Artist **Shanze Afzal**, who identifies as the only trained and certified female Muslim tattoo artist in the United States, will



create the "gateway" art event. For Afzal, tattoos are a form of a socially conscious and shared political language as a redress to specific cultures where women's voices can be restricted or disallowed. Brazilian/American graphic performance artist **Claudia Vieira** will wrap the tent and surrounds the hotels outer wall with a continuous line of black vinyl tape to create a "living" drawing. American photographer **Angela Strassheim** will offer digital and Polaroid portraits that feature her unique blend of matter-of-fact Midwestern clarity and surreal juxtapositions. Before receiving her MFA from Yale, Strassheim worked as a certified forensic photographer in Miami. Her work was included in the 2006 Whitney Biennial that *The New York Times* referred to as, "surreal pictures, candy colored and strangely loving."

- **Katarra Peterson and her *Uppity* hair braiding project, presented by ArtHelix Gallery/SHIM Network** (Brooklyn)
Katarra Peterson will use the upper balcony of the fair as a platform for a modern-day interpretation of the Rapunzel folk tale. Rewritten here by a female artist of color who reimagines this story, not of how she will be saved, but rather how she will "pull up" others less fortunate. Fair visitors will have an opportunity to help her weave lengths of braided hair into a rope, and the artist will offer her "assistants" crystal ball and palm readings, general wisdom, and spiritual consulting.
- **The Shim Video Collective** (various)
The Shim Video Collective will launch its inaugural exhibition featuring an international group of emerging and established video artists, hand selected by a panel of video curators. The videos and experimental films will each run for three minutes or less, and include submissions from **X-Film Femmes** (est. 2018), the global video art collective who are dedicated to presenting new work from budding and recognized experimental female film makers. Represented in the XFF screenings will be filmmakers **Taimi Nevaluoma** (Finland), **Dorottya Szalay** (Hungary), **Gabriela Gaia Meirelles** (Brazil), **Bonnie Rychlak** (US), and more yet to be announced. The video program will be looped on a high-resolution monitor in the hotel lobby.
- **MIKIHUMO – Imponderable Cities, presented by Blackship** (Miami)
Imponderable Cities by **MIKIHUMO** is a series of sculptures that, from a minimalist point of view, evoke the development of cities from the beginning of civilization to the present as they are submerged in the AQUA Hotel swimming pool along with video mapping on the pools back wall. Some cities have outdated architecture, while others respect machines more than nature and humans. This behavior has created a hostile climate change, affected rising sea levels and put cities at risk. This work represents urban planning that is focused on quantity and not quality, sustainability or functionality. The idea of building a city that grows organically has been displaced, which has resulted in uncomfortable and unfavorable cities that break with human interaction.
- **DJ Bea Pernia, presented by Blackship** (Miami)
Multimedia performance artist **Bea Pernia** will provide the musical atmosphere for the VIP Preview, with a special live performance opening night on Wednesday, December 5th.
- **Conversation with artist Kevin Berlin** | Saturday, December 8th at 1pm



Kevin Berlin will discuss the Worldwide Premiere of *HOPE DIES LAST 2 - New Works of the Russian Ballet*. Berlin's paintings focus on the interior and secret lives of ballet dancers – depicting their hidden thoughts in sensual, mostly black and white paintings, sculpture, and works on paper. The talk will be followed by a Q&A.

- **Book signing and cocktail reception with artist Stephen Wilson** | Saturday, December 8th at 6pm
A special book signing and cocktail reception will be held with mixed-media artist **Stephen Wilson**, best known for his artistic explorations in embroidery work, supplemented with cutting-edge modern technologies, like laser cutting and 3D printing. High fashion influences are prevalent in his work, expressed through his use of designer-branded packaging and luxury fabrics including Hermès silk, Chanel wool, and limited-edition Gucci boxes. The artist will sign copies of his new book, *Stephen Wilson: Luscious Threads*, available from Scala Arts and Heritage Publishers. Renowned art historians and critics **Donald Kuspit** and **Eleanor Heartney** will provide thoughtful commentary on Wilson's contribution to the contemporary art field. Books will be available for purchase.
- **The Parsons Close Project launch from Steve Cohen and Curtis Cox** (Springs, NY)
Steve Cohen and **Curtis Cox** are the longtime lighting and production directors for the biggest names in music, including Billy Joel, Justin Timberlake, Mariah Carey, The Eagles, Blake Shelton and Lenny Kravitz, who will be making their artistic debut as a collaborative presentation known as **The Parsons Close Project**. The presentation will feature Cohen's recent paintings and assemblages, as well as Cox's ceramics and jewelry. Cohen began painting 14 years ago to transition his ephemeral work in lighting design onto a permanent canvas. His works are an unconscious channeling of what he sees in the world every day. Cox uses computer-aided design programs to print in clay with a 3D printer or cut from sheet metal with a laser. He then uses traditional ceramic and jewelry techniques to transform the parts into a final, finished piece.
- **Susan J. Barron – *Depicting the Invisible* presented by HG Contemporary** (New York)
Military veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) have shared their stories with New York-based artist **Susan J. Barron** who has honored them by creating large-scale mixed-media portraits that she will present in, *Depicting the Invisible: A Portrait Series of Veterans Suffering from PTSD*. Barron's work shines a spotlight on thirteen American veterans who have survived the trauma of war or terrorism. The artist's oversized black-and-white photographic portraits are painted with the subjects' stories in their own words.
- **Artsy.net** is the official online partner of Aqua Art Miami, CONTEXT Art Miami, and Art Miami. Collectors and art enthusiasts can use Artsy to browse exhibitor booths, make sales inquiries on available art works, and access fair information online via [Artsy.net](https://www.artsy.net) and the Artsy app for iPhone and iPad. Artsy's exclusive online previews will launch in advance of the fairs with a special first-look for press and VIPs on November 27th and to the public on November 28th. [artsy.net](https://www.artsy.net)

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

The **2018 VIP Preview Beneficiary** is the Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM). The **2018 Sponsors and Partners** are: Christie's International Real Estate, Artsy.net, JW Marriott Marquis Miami and Hotel BeauX Arts Miami, Spuntino Catering, Boulud Sud, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Boca Raton Museum of Art, The



Bass Museum, Independent Collectors, Institute of Contemporary Art Miami (ICA), Museum of Contemporary Art, Uber, ARTIKA, Modern Luxury, Miami Herald, Art Nexus, Art Circuits/GMCVB, Art Districts/Art Pulse, Art Hive, Arts and Antiques, Selecta Magazine, GRØSS Magazine, Create! Magazine, Palm Beach Illustrated, Art and Culture.

HOURS AND LOCATION

Fair Hours:

- VIP Preview | Wednesday, Dec 5: 3PM - 10PM
- Fair Hours | Thursday, Dec. 6 – 12PM – 9PM; Friday, Dec. 7 & Saturday, Dec. 8 – 11AM – 9PM; Sunday, Dec. 9; 11AM – 6PM

Location:

Aqua Art Miami at the Aqua Hotel, 1530 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, FL 33139

TICKET INFORMATION

A One Day fair pass provides admission to Aqua Art Miami only. A Multi-Day pass provides admission to Aqua Art Miami, as well as Art Miami and CONTEXT Art Miami.

- One day fair pass (valid for one day admission any public fair day) - \$25
- Multi-day fair pass (valid for multi-day admission to Aqua Art Miami as well as Art Miami and CONTEXT Art Miami) - \$100
- Seniors 62 years + (valid for one day admission any public fair day for Aqua Art Miami; valid ID required) - \$20
- Students 12-18 years (valid for one day admission any public fair day for Aqua Art Miami; valid ID required) - \$20
- Children under 12 years accompanied by adult – free
 - o Strollers are not permitted

Show Management strictly prohibits Pets from entering the Aqua facilities. Only animals assisting handicapped or disabled individuals are exempt from this rule.

For further information please call 1.800.376.5850, email aqua@aquartmiami.com or visit aquartmiami.com.

To purchase tickets, please go to <https://www.universe.com/events/aqua-art-miami-2018-tickets-ZC4R8Y?ref=explore>.

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VIP RELATIONS, MARKETING, SPONSORS + PARTNERS

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