
FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT ART BASEL IN MIAMI BEACH

Convention Center and Exhibition Space

Art Basel takes place at the Miami Beach Convention Center (MBCC), Miami Beach, Florida, USA.

Over 500,000 square feet of exhibition space host the Galleries, Nova, Positions, Edition, Kabinett, Survey and Magazines sectors as well as Conversations and Salon talks. Public artworks are shown nearby at Collins Park, while Film is presented across three venues, inside the MBCC, in the outdoor setting of Sound Scape Park and one special screening at the Colony Theatre.

Visitor figures

In 2015 the show attracted an attendance of 77,000 over five days.

Historic landmarks

2001

The first edition of Art Basel in Miami Beach is postponed due to September 11.

2002

Art Basel debuts in Miami Beach. At the nexus of North America and Latin America, the show reflects the city's multi-cultural identity, presenting a diversity of work from the galleries and artists of the region. It immediately establishes itself as the premier show in the Americas, and ranks among the favorite winter-time events of the international art world. Art Positions introduces a radical new sector, with galleries exhibiting young artists near the beach in temporarily converted shipping containers. The first edition features 160 galleries from 23 countries and attracts 30,000 visitors.

2003

The Nova sector begins a long run in Miami Beach, focusing on recent works by artists of all generations.

2005

The new Kabinett sector, which gives the Galleries sector's exhibitors a chance to create special exhibitions within their booth, proves to be a favorite among artworld connoisseurs.

First special exhibition devoted to Artist Books from 2000 to 2005. Its success led to two follow-up exhibitions: the Small Press Scene in the 60s and 70s, and recordings produced or designed by artists (Artist Records).

2007

Annette Schönholzer, Marc Spiegler, and Cay Sophie Rabinowitz take over Art Basel's directorship from Sam Keller. From 2008 the shows are run by co-directors, Annette Schönholzer and Marc Spiegler.

The Ball of Artists, an aural and visual artwork, is experienced by 1,200 attendees at the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami, thus beginning a dialog between the historic house and gardens and the contemporary artworld. Several semi-permanent installations remain on site after the event for park visitors.

2009

Positions moves into the Miami Beach Convention Center, making room for the new Oceanfront area, an experiential space debuting with 'Self Roaming', Los Angeles artist Pae White's immersive and interactive cityscape. This labyrinth-like metropolis on the sand was commissioned by Creative Time.

2010

Art Basel in Miami Beach hosts Creative Time's Oceanfront Nights, a nightly program sited in an open-air pavilion designed by Phu Hoang Office and Rachely Rotem Studio, constructed of reflective and phosphorescent ropes that sway and glow in the night.

2011

Art Basel in Miami Beach celebrates its 10th edition with a vertical one-night event created by Performa, to engage all three floors of the new Frank Gehry-designed New World Symphony. The event is the first visual arts-related event held at the New World Symphony building.

The Film program is projected onto building's 7,000-square-foot outdoor projection wall, while the Public sector is consolidated in a new location, Collins Park, and co-produced with the Bass Museum of Art.

2012

Public for the first time is organized in collaboration with the Bass Museum of Art and takes place in Collins Park. It is the first edition curated by Christine Y. Kim.

2013

The Edition sector premieres in Miami Beach with 13 exhibitors.

Under the theme 'Social Animals', Public was curated for the first time by Nicholas Baume, Director and Chief Curator of New York City's Public Art Fund.

2014

Introduction of the new Survey sector, which brought 13 art-historical projects to the fair, including many rare works never before exhibited in an art fair context.

Public featured over 26 large-scale sculptures and installations and was curated for the second time by Nicolas Baume, this year under the theme 'Fieldwork'.

Art Basel also partnered with Performa to present 'ME3M 4 Miami: A Story Ballet About the Internet', an immersive dance performance by celebrated contemporary artist Ryan McNamara. The work, which received critical acclaim from diverse audiences and the media, explored the online world, making physical the virtual experience of link-clicking, simultaneously incorporating many styles of dance.

2015

In July, Art Basel appointed Noah Horowitz, who had served as Executive Director of the Armory Show in New York since 2011, as the first Director Americas.

The feature film was selected for the first time by Marian Masone, Senior Programing Advisor, Film Society of Lincoln Center, New York.

Curated for the third consecutive year by Nicholas Baume, Public featured 27 projects by 26 artists under the theme 'Metaforms'.

Art Basel and BMW announced the shortlist of artists nominated for the second BMW Art Journey: Henning Fehr and Philipp Rühr at Galerie Max Mayer (Dusseldorf), Dan Bayles at François Ghebaly Gallery (Los Angeles) and Fritzia Irizar at Arredondo \ Arozarena (Mexico City)