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ART BASEL MIAMI BEACH 2024: A global celebration of art

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MIAMI BEACH - [Art Basel Miami Beach](#) marks its 22nd year at the [Miami Beach Convention Center](#), showcasing works from 286 premier galleries representing 38 countries and territories.

The global art fair has transformed the city into a cultural hub, drawing collectors, artists, and enthusiasts from around the world.

"This year's show builds on an incredible history," said Bridget Finn, director of Art Basel Miami Beach. "Miami Beach is a geographical nexus between North, South, and Central America, and our show reflects that."

Wednesday's VIP preview welcomed seasoned art buyers, many donning flat shoes and carrying designer bags, ready to explore the fair.

Ayesha and Diane, visitors from New York, shared their excitement about the festival. "The vibe is fully vibrant," Ayesha said. "We're looking forward to seeing new artists and getting a sense of what's on the pulse of the art world. It's all about personal taste."

Among the standout exhibits is a collection from New York's Marianne Boesky Gallery, featuring The Haas Brothers, twin artists Simon and Nikki Haas. Their "wind paintings," with whimsical titles like Zac ZeFRON and Rob Blow, are created by directing wind at layers of paint to form intricate textures.

"The wind actually creates the surface itself," explained Simon Haas. His brother Nikki added, "We want to make art less serious so it's approachable for everyone."

The fair also highlights a connection between art and nature with The Spanish Moss Sanctuary, a live plant installation by Miami-based design studio Plant the Future. Designed to bring calm and serenity, the installation has become a centerpiece of the event.

Art Basel is more than just an art show, it's an economic powerhouse, generating an estimated \$500 million in local impact. Gallerists are optimistic about this year's sales. "We've had more inquiries before the opening than at any fair in the last 12 months," said David Nolan of his self-titled gallery. "I think people are ready to spend again."

Former Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine emphasized the event's significance for the region. "Miami Beach is fun, sun, and surf, but it's also a cultural capital," Levine said. "People from all over the world come here to enjoy art, converse, and collaborate. It says a lot about the city and the state."

From contemporary works to timeless masterpieces, the fair offers something for everyone.

At the Mayoral Gallery from Barcelona, a Salvador Dalí piece is on display with a price tag of \$1.3 million.

Art Basel Miami Beach opens to the public on Friday and runs through Sunday, offering visitors a chance to experience the vibrant world of art at its finest.