

March 5, 2018 By Paul Laster

What to See at the Armory Show, Volta, NADA, and the Independent

As Armory Week descends upon New York from March 8-11, we share our top picks of what not to miss at the fairs



Tomashi Jackson, Avocado Seed Soup (Davis, et. al. v County School Board of Prince Edward County)(Brown, et. al. v Board of Education of Topeka)(Sweatt v Painter), 2016.

Photo: Courtesy of the artist and Tilton Gallery

With the influx of art fairs landing in New York this week, advance planning is key. Here, we have sifted through the lists of exhibitors at the top four fairs—the Armory Show, Volta NY, Independent and NADA—to highlight the art and artists that we believe merit the most attention.

THE ARMORY SHOW

Presenting 198 galleries from 31 countries, the prestigious Armory Show returns to Piers 92 and 94 with work in a variety of media by established and emerging artists.



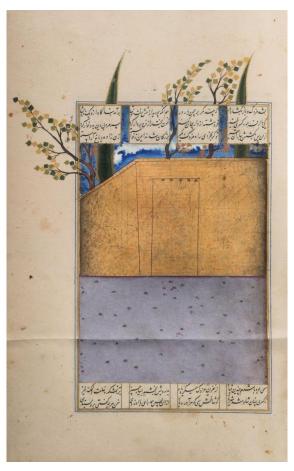
Nam June Paik, Lion, 2005. Photo: Courtesy of the Nam June Paik Estate and Gagosian

Don't miss Gagosian's booth in the main sector, which is dedicated to Korean Video Art maestro Nam June Paik. On display is a series of rare drawings and sculptures—including a monumental arch of 28 televisions transmitting videos while symbolically surrounding a painted lion. Also be sure to catch Spanish artist and designer Nacho Carbonell's cocoon-shaped lamps displayed in a studio setting at Carpenters Workshop Gallery, one of only two design galleries participating in the fair.



Nacho Carbonell, Table Cocoon 17, 2017. Photo: Courtesy of the artist and Carpenter's Workshop Gallery

Over in the Insight section, which features artwork made before 2000, <u>Albertz Benda</u> presents an important series of Navaho textile–inspired abstractions from the 1970s by California modernist <u>Ed Moses</u>, who died in January at age 91. <u>Lawrie Shabibi</u>, meanwhile, offers new work by <u>Shapour Pouyan</u> in the Focus section, where galleries are showcasing art that examines the relationship between the body and technology. The Iranian-born Pouyan flaunts a hybrid machine that combines a catapult with a guillotine, as well as a series of appropriated Persian miniatures, from which he has ironically eradicated historical figures and details.



Shahpour Pouyan, After, the execution of Mazdak before Nushirwan, the arch-heretic and communist has been hoisted on a gallows by his feet and is being shot full of arrows, 2018. Photo:

Musthafa Aboobacker, Courtesy of the artist and Lawrie Shabibi

Finally, the Platform section—dedicated to site-specific art—is spread throughout the fair. Keep an eye out for French artist <u>JR</u>'s monumental installation on the façade of Pier 94 that mixes the faces of recent Syrian refugees with historical images of immigrants at Ellis Island. Los Angeles artist <u>Sarah Cain</u>, meanwhile, will be painting a massive abstraction at the pier's entrance over a two-day period, and <u>Tara Donovan</u> has constructed an enormous pyramid made of thousands of clear plastic tubes for the pier's Town Square.

Piers 92 & 94, 12th Avenue at 55th Street, New York City