



Historical Projects Return to Art Basel Miami Beach

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by Hamptons Art Hub Staff

Following its successful debut last year, [Art Basel Miami Beach's](#) Survey sector returns and will present 14 exhibitions of art work made before 2000. The exhibitions will be presented by leading galleries from across the world, many of them first-time exhibitors at Art Basel Miami Beach. Galleries are based in Brazil, China, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Switzerland, the U.K. and the United States.

The sector will present art by Charles Burchfield, Peter Campus, Gianni Colombo, Roy DeCarava, Rosalyn Drexler, Dorothy Iannone, Wang Jinsong, Heinz Mack, Roberto Burle Marx, Shinjiro Okamoto, Miguel Ángel Rojas, Peter Saul, Keith Sonnier and Ettore Spalletti.

The 14th edition of Art Basel Miami Beach (ABMB) takes place from December 3 to 6, 2015 at the Miami Beach Convention Center.

Nine of the 14 international galleries in Survey this year will be entirely new to the show. [Castelli Gallery](#) debuts at ABMB with a selection of iconic sculptural works by the Post-Minimal American artist [Keith Sonnier](#) (b. 1941, United States). Keith Sonnier is based in The Hamptons.

When his pieces were initially exhibited by Castelli Gallery in the 1960s, Sonnier set a precedent for abandoning the rules of traditional sculpture, forgoing the pedestal to create wall-based works and trading traditional media such as bronze and marble for unconventional and psychologically loaded materials, such as cloth and latex. For Survey the gallery will select works from the 1960s that employ materials with a skin-like quality, which Sonnier accentuated by allowing them to retain organic shapes and movement.

[Beijing Art Now Gallery](#), also a first-time presenter, will feature over 500 pieces of conceptual photographs, videos, installations and documented performances by [Wang Jinsong](#) (b. 1963, China). The exhibition explores the development of pioneering artist and is indicative of the early experimental work that emerged in China in the 1990s. Included with be Wang's iconic work *Standard Family* (1996).



"Untitled No. 6" by Wang Jinsong, 1989. Acrylic on paper.
Courtesy of the artist and Beijing Art Now Gallery.

Vistamare, also new to the show, will feature a selection of abstract paintings and minimalist works by **Ettore Spalletti** (b. 1940, Italy) created between 1992 and 1999. Suspended between painting and sculpture, Spalletti's works are known for their focus on light and space, chromatic backgrounds, use of essential geometric forms and laborious layering of plaster and pigments.

Miami Beach newcomer **Beck & Eggeling** will present work by the acclaimed ZERO artist **Heinz Mack** (b. 1931, Germany). Co-founded by Mack together with the artists Otto Piene and Günther Uecker, ZERO was one of the most important German post war-movements.



"Mechanisches Ballett" by Heinz Mack, 2015 after a design of 1966.
Courtesy Beck & Eggeling and the Artist's Studio.

Bergamin & Gomide will return to Survey with the first US exhibition of acclaimed landscape designer **Roberto Burle Marx** (b. 1909, Brazil) that focuses on his work as an artist. Through a focused collection of important paintings, drawings, landscape projects and jewelry, the gallery will expand the viewer's understanding of this acclaimed Brazilian figure.



"Guaratiba" by Roberto Burle Marx, 1989. Courtesy of the artist and Bergamin & Gomide.

Shinjiro Okamoto (b. 1933, Japan), one of the forerunners of Pop Art in Japan, will be presented by first-time Miami Beach participant **Tokyo Gallery + BTAP**. Okamoto's sharp responses to the shifting ideologies from prewar imperialism to postwar democracy are concealed within a lively humor, playfulness and complex irony. In a series of cartoonish panorama paintings from the 1980s and 1990s, Okamoto reimagines the brutal scenery of the atomic bomb and the devastating air raids over Tokyo.



"Wooden Clog Memorial Service" by Shinjiro Okamoto, 1997. Courtesy of the artist and Tokyo Gallery + BTAP.

Vintage gelatin silver prints by [Roy DeCarava](#) (b. 1919, United States), an African-American photographer who was an integral figure within 20th-century American art, will be the focus at [Jenkins Johnson Gallery](#), exhibiting with Art Basel for the first time. Representing the largest body of DeCarava's photographs on view in nearly 10 years, the exhibition will include portraits of jazz legends, scenes of everyday life in New York from the 1940s to 1970s, and rare work from the award-winning book he co-authored with the poet Langston Hughes, *The Sweet Fly Paper of Life* (1955).

Also new to the show, [Cristin Tierney Gallery](#) will present groundbreaking single-channel videos by [Peter Campus](#) (b. 1937, United States), forming a discrete group of nine artworks that will be seen together for the first time in over 30 years. Created in the early 1970s, Campus' videos pushed the boundaries of this new medium and have influenced generations of artists since. Exemplifying avant-garde artistic practices of the era, his works reflect his interest in cognitive psychology, identity construction and existential questions of human existence.

A series of evocative and often sexual large-scale paintings on canvas, drawings and prints by [Dorothy Iannone](#) (b. 1933, United States) will be on view at [Peres Projects](#). Representing important stages of her practice from the 1960s through the 1980s, the featured pieces have been the focus of museum exhibitions, including most recently a solo show at Zurich's Migros Museum and a retrospective at the Berlinische Galerie.

First-time exhibitor [Robilant + Voena](#)'s presentation of [Gianni Colombo](#) (b. 1937, Italy) will include drawings executed for Colombo's immersive gridded environment 'Spazio elastico' (1967), as well as subsequent mixed media and motorized pieces exemplifying his investigation of the potentialities of altered, moving and flexible space. A significant piece of postwar Italian art, 'Spazio elastico' (1967) was first installed at Neue Galerie am Landesmuseum Joanneum, Graz in 1967 and was later exhibited at the 1968 Venice Biennale.

Another highlight of this year's Survey will be the large-scale works by [Rosalyn Drexler](#) (b. 1926, United States) at [Garth Greenan Gallery](#). Seven of Drexler's most iconic paintings from 1960 to 1965 will be on view, charting the development of her unique brand of hand-painted Pop art, as well as her career-long fascination with images of violence. The presentation will coincide with Drexler's inclusion in Tate Modern's 'The EY Exhibition: The World Goes Pop'.

[George Adams Gallery](#) will feature the early stages of [Peter Saul](#)'s (b. 1934, United States) career with an exhibition of paintings and works on paper from 1959 to 1976, marking the gallery's debut showing with Art Basel in Miami Beach. Works will include never-before-exhibited early paintings and pastels based on imagined landscapes, portraits and interiors, as well as a notable two-sided canvas demonstrative of Saul's emerging response to Pop Art. Later works will include examples of his controversial and provocative depictions of women and reflections on contemporary American society.

[Miguel Ángel Rojas](#) (b. 1946, Colombia), a conceptual and multimedia artist known for works addressing marginality, identity and the political reality of his native Colombia, will be on view at

espaivisor. Rojas' practice has ranged from personal explorations of the subjective experience, such as photographs secretly capturing public encounters between gay men in 1970's Bogotá, to indictments of drug trafficking and consumption through the reconstruction of pop imagery from coca leaves. espaivisor's installation will largely focus on Rojas' early works, including delicate pencil drawings from the 1970s and the haunting photographs of his 'Serie Faenza' from the 1980s.

DC Moore Gallery, returning to Art Basel in Miami Beach following a brief hiatus, will feature a focused exhibition of exceptional watercolors from the extensive career of **Charles Burchfield** (b. 1893, United States). One of the most innovative artists of the 20th century, Burchfield's intensely personal, spiritualized view of the world is evident in his visionary landscapes that address the harsh realities of 20th-century industrialization and daily life in small towns and urban areas.



"Tile Roof" by Chris Burchfield, 1930-43. Courtesy of DC Moore Gallery, New York.

BASIC FACTS: Art Basel Miami Beach 2015 takes place from December 3 to 6, 2015. The Miami Beach Convention Center is located at 1901 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139. www.artbasel.com.

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