



AO ON SITE – ART 43 BASEL FINAL PHOTOSET AND AO NEWS WRAPUP

June 18th, 2012



All photos by Caroline Claisse for Art Observed.

With the closing of the weekend, Art Basel has reached the culmination of what has been an extensive and prolific week of exhibitions, sales, salons, and performances. The cultural capital sited on the banks of the Rhine attracted more than 2,500 artists, 300 galleries, and an international presence of 36 countries for the festival's 43rd successful installment.



"System of Display" (2010) from Pace, reflecting [Andy Warhol's "Mao" \(1973\)](#) at the LM ARTS booth



Work by [Hiroshi Sugimoto](#)





[Subodh Gupta](#)'s "Fil" (2010) from Nature Morte



[Claude Lévêque](#)'s Shoot (2012) from Kamel Mennour



[Robert Longo](#) works at Metro Picture's booth



London based Cabinet Gallery's site



[Yue Minjun](#)'s "Picture of a noble scholar" (2010) from Daniel Templon Galerie



Untitled (2011) work by [John Miller](#) at Metro Pictures' booth



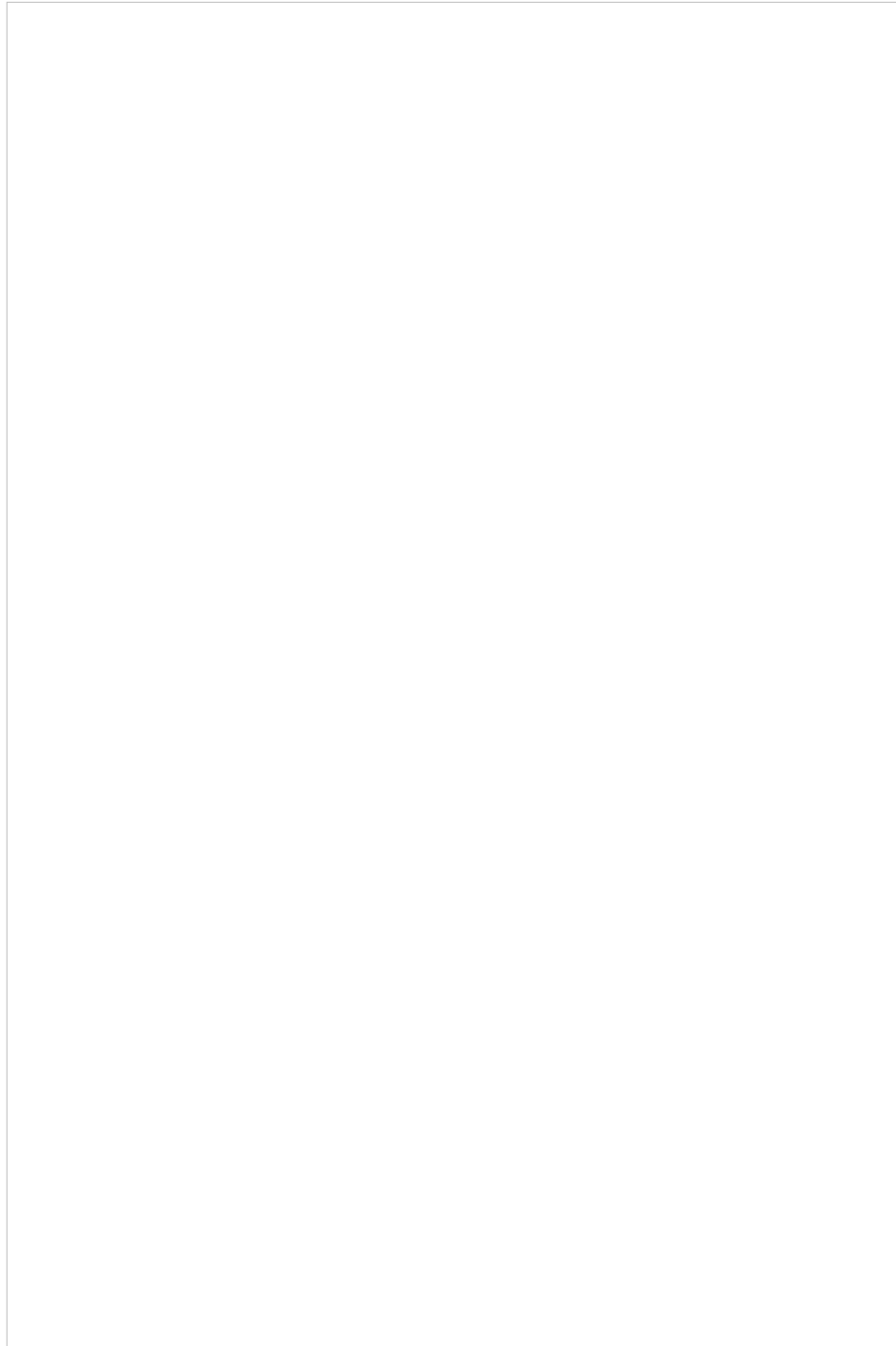
UK gallery Victoria Miro presents [Yayoi Kusama](#)

The first official affair in Basel's list of many events was the annual Art Parcours Night, this year featuring a Vaudeville-era performance by [Kathryn Andrews](#) staged against several installations. Other on-site exhibitions like that of Claude L veque remained on display through the week also as a part of the Art Parcours section.

Though the public opening of Basel immediately followed Art Parcours Night on June 14, the true vernissage was as early as three days prior, with a stretch of invitation only unveilings and VIP preview days. Notable names to make appearances at this year's preview were collector [Alberto Mugrabi](#), hedge fund principal [Steve Cohen](#), and estate developer [Jerry Speyer](#).



Swedish gallery Andréhn-Schiptjenko shows [Tony Matelli](#)'s "Josh" (2010) and [Xavier-Veilhan](#)'s "David" (2012)



Sies + Hoke booth



[Robin Rhode](#)'s "School of Fish" (2012) with work by Gilbert and George



White Cube shows [Richard Phillips](#)' "Leonardo DiCaprio" (2010)



“Santa with butt Plug” (2002) sculpture by [Paul McCarthy](#) from Hauser & Wirth



Metro Pictures exhibits “Flat Human I want More” (2009) installation by [Olaf Breuning](#) and an untitled (2010) photography piece by [Cindy Sherman](#). AMA reported the gallery sold six copies of the Cindy Sherman, each for \$450,000.



Work by [Rob Pruitt](#) and [Urs Fischer](#) displayed by Gavin Brown's Enterprise



Massimo Bartolini's sculpture "Revolutionary Monk" (2006) from Frith Street Gallery



[Marina Abramovic](#)'s "The Communicator" (2012) from Sean Kelly



Another work by Marina Abramovic, “Holding Emptiness” (2012) from Sean Kelly

Among the exhibition and sale highlights was Pace Gallery’s [Gerhard Richter](#) abstract, “AB Courbet” (1986) which sold for \$25m. Also bought at the Pace booth was an untitled work by [Agnes Martin](#) for \$1m, “Clothespin” by [Claes Oldenburg](#) for \$600,000, and [Zhang Xiaogang](#)’s “Face 2012 n:1” for \$450,000.

Hauser & Wirth gallery saw strong sales with [Philip Guston](#)’s “Orders” going for \$6m, Paul McCarthy’s “White Snow and Prince on Horse” for \$1.8m, and [Louise Bourgeois](#)’ bronze sculpture “Arched Figure” for \$2 million. AMA reported Blum and Poe sold a [Takashi Murakami](#), “Shangri – La Blue/Shangri” for \$1.5m and [Mark Grotjahn](#)’s “Untitled, (Orange, butterfly, blue, MG03)” for \$1 million; Sperone Westwater Gallery sold three works by [Alighiero e Boetti](#) for \$240-300,000 and “Saturn V” by [Tom Sachs](#) for \$125,000; “End Plate 11” by [Christopher Wool](#) was bought from Luhring Augustine for \$950,000; “Joseph Beuys” by Andy Warhol left Acquavella for \$10m, which also sold “Girl in white” by [Wayne Thiebaud](#) for \$1.5m; Aurel Scheibler Gallery sold two [Alice Neel](#) pieces, “Elsie Rubin” and “Spanish Harlem”, both for \$500,000; and a 1986 knitted painting by [Rosemarie Trockel](#) was bought from the Sprüth Magers booth at €380,000.

The gem at Basel, [Mark Rothko](#)’s 1954 canvas exhibited by Marlborough was sold and was priced at \$78m, however the final sale price has yet to reach a clear consensus.

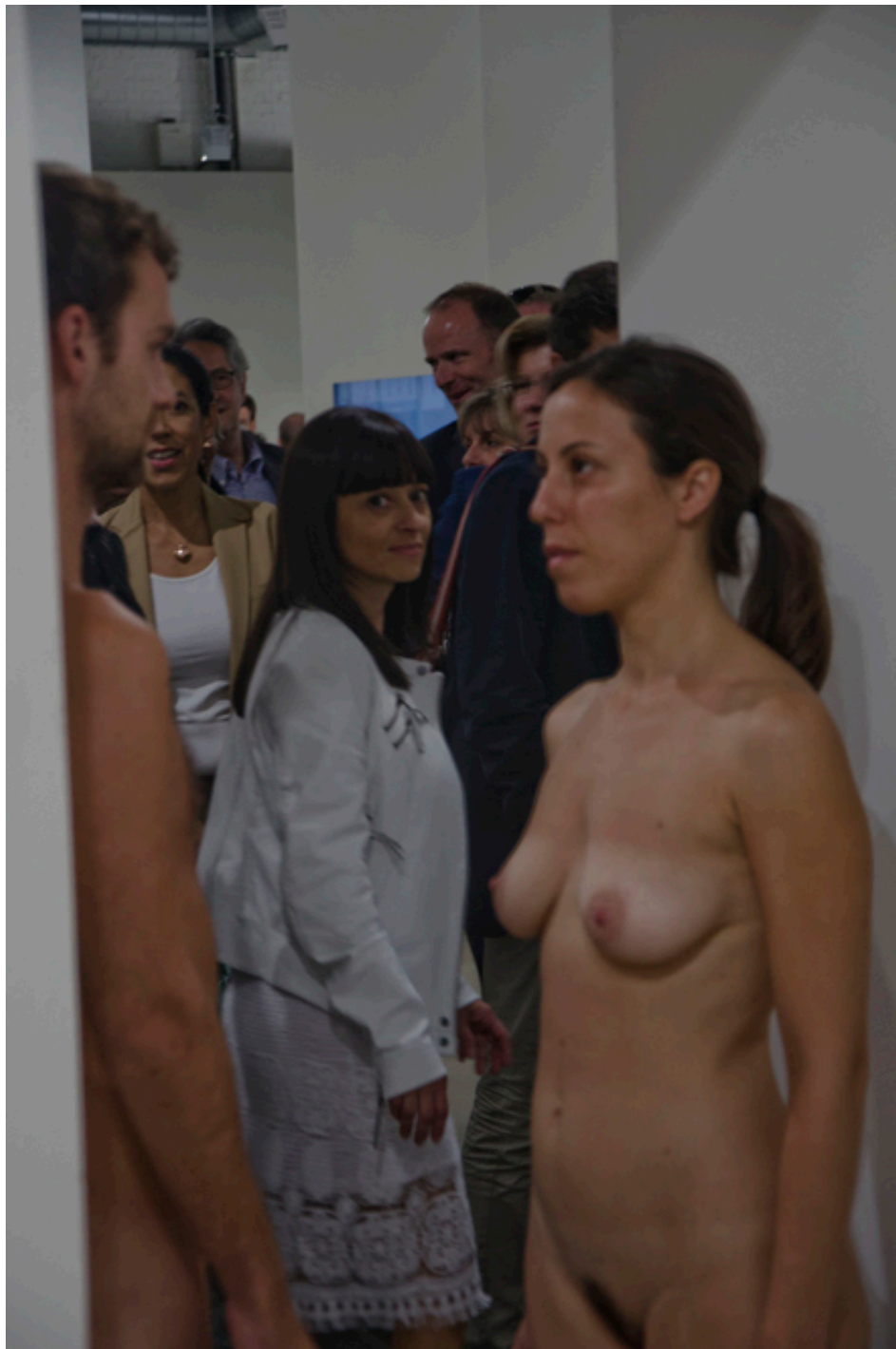


[Paula Cooper](#) and [Tony Shafrazi](#) at the booth of his eponymous gallery



More of Tony Shafrazi's booth





Another main fair addition that stood out this year and sparked much discussion was Sean Kelly Gallery's reenactment of Marina Abramovic's 1977 performance "Imponderabilia", where two actors stand naked at an entryway and visitors must pass closely between them for access.



Marina Abramovic, robed in white, also performed her autobiographical “Life and Death of Marina Abramovic” at Theater Basel



Marina Abramovic and other actors on stage



More from Sean Kelly, Laurent Grasso's "Future archaeology" (2012) and [Joseph Kosuth](#)'s "Andy Warhol (Art as Idea as Idea)" (1968)



[Jonathan Monk](#)'s "Violent shadow I" (2012) from Yvon Lambert

Art Unlimited, Basel's section devoted to works large in scale and outside of typical gallery confines, was also a hot locale for sales, exhibiting 62 projects this year. Gagosian and Paula Cooper brought perhaps the most memorable works, respectively, a snaking, pink installation by [Franz West](#) (sold on its first day shown) and [Rudolf Stingel](#)'s untitled, anonymous photograph of Paula Cooper, which sold privately for \$3 million. Gagosian Gallery was the reported contributor of 12.5% of the artwork value hosted at Basel.



[John Chamberlain](#)'s "Phonetic Shortcut" (2002) from Pace gallery



[Jenny Holzer](#)'s "Heap" (2012) from Yvon Lambert



Richard Gray gallery shows “InesWorld I” (2012) by [Jaume Plensa](#)



Another work of Jaume Plensa's titled "Blind Angel" (2012) from Galerie Lelong

Art Basel may be associated more with its main fair, but focus and interest was certainly split amongst its many satellite fairs and outgrowths. Characteristically focusing on the exhibition of a younger generation of artists, LISTE17 brought to Basel a collection of 64 galleries, the majority only recent arrivals in the art world. Similarly dedicated to the up and coming, VOLTA8 assembled 81 galleries this year, retaining its position as "Basel's cutting edge art fair". The-solo-project, presenting this year "Solo Shows by Selected Galleries", showcased more in depth work from a carefully chosen selection of artists and galleries. Among the other offshoots of the main fair were Design Miami/Basel and Scope.



Greene Naftali gallery's booth



[Grayson Perry](#)'s "The agony in the car park" (2012), exhibited by Victoria Miro



White Cube presents [Gilbert & George](#), [Antony Gormley](#), and [Georg Baselitz](#)



“Strip” (2011) by Gerhard Richter from Marian Goodman



[Georg Herold](#)'s firetruck-red sculpture "Beef early" (2012)



Urs Fischer table at Gavin Brown's Enterprise booth



Another view of the art at Gavin Browns booth

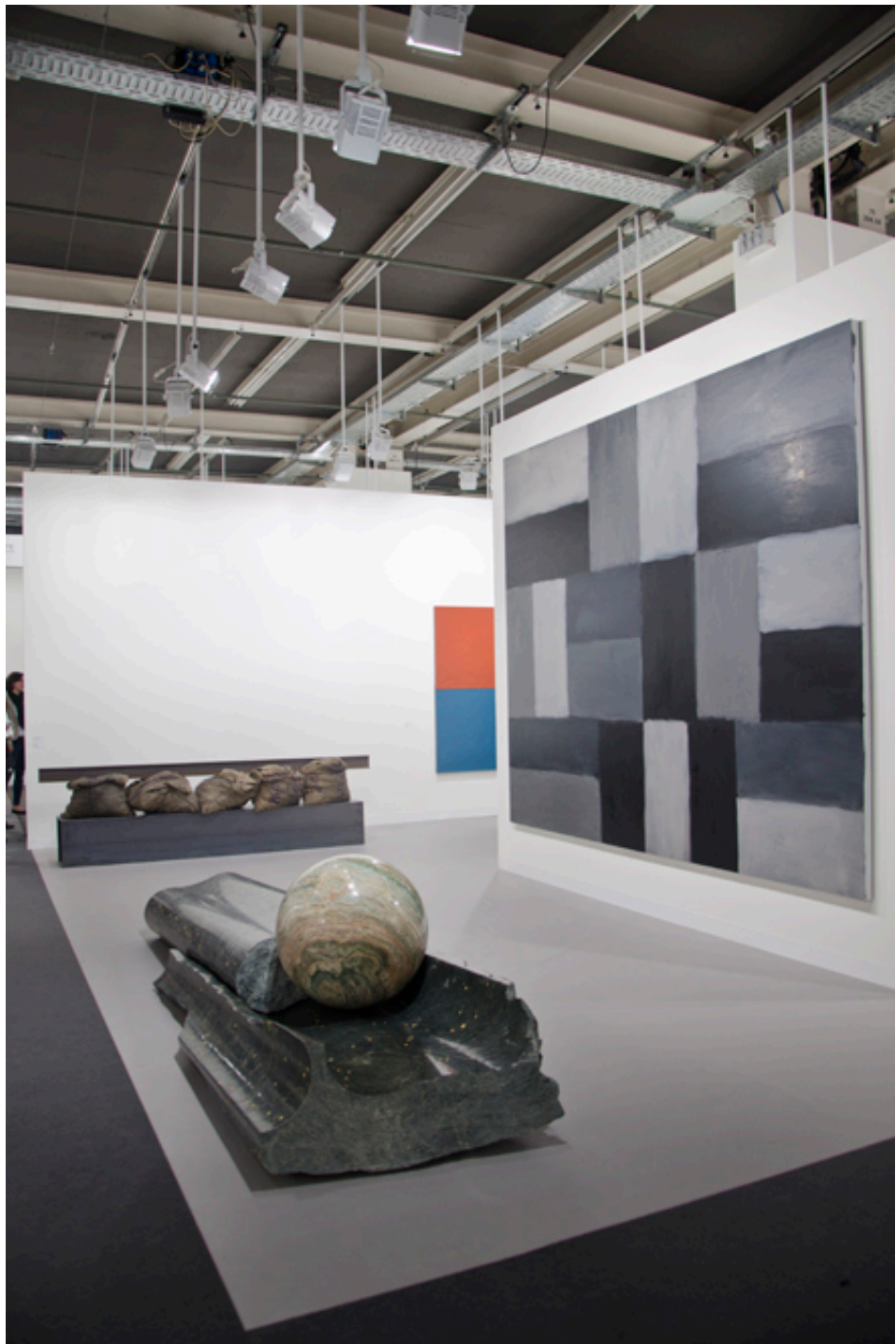
Other public events and programs joining Basel for another year included Art Salon, a dense series of speakers and panelists, Art Basel Conversations, and Art Parcours. The spotlight however remained on more private gatherings, such as the Fondation Beyeler's private dinner, featuring a talk by architect [Rem Koolhaas](#) and curator Hans-Ulrich Obrist, and in part honoring the current [Jeff Koons](#) exhibition. Guests to the dinner were Jeff Koons himself, Larry Gagosian, Zaha Hadid, and Tracey Emin.



Gallerist Victoria Miro in front of [Chantal Joffe](#)'s "Couple Embracing" (2010)



Galerie Peter Kilchmann's space



Galerie Lelong's exhibitions



Galerie Barbara Weiss booth



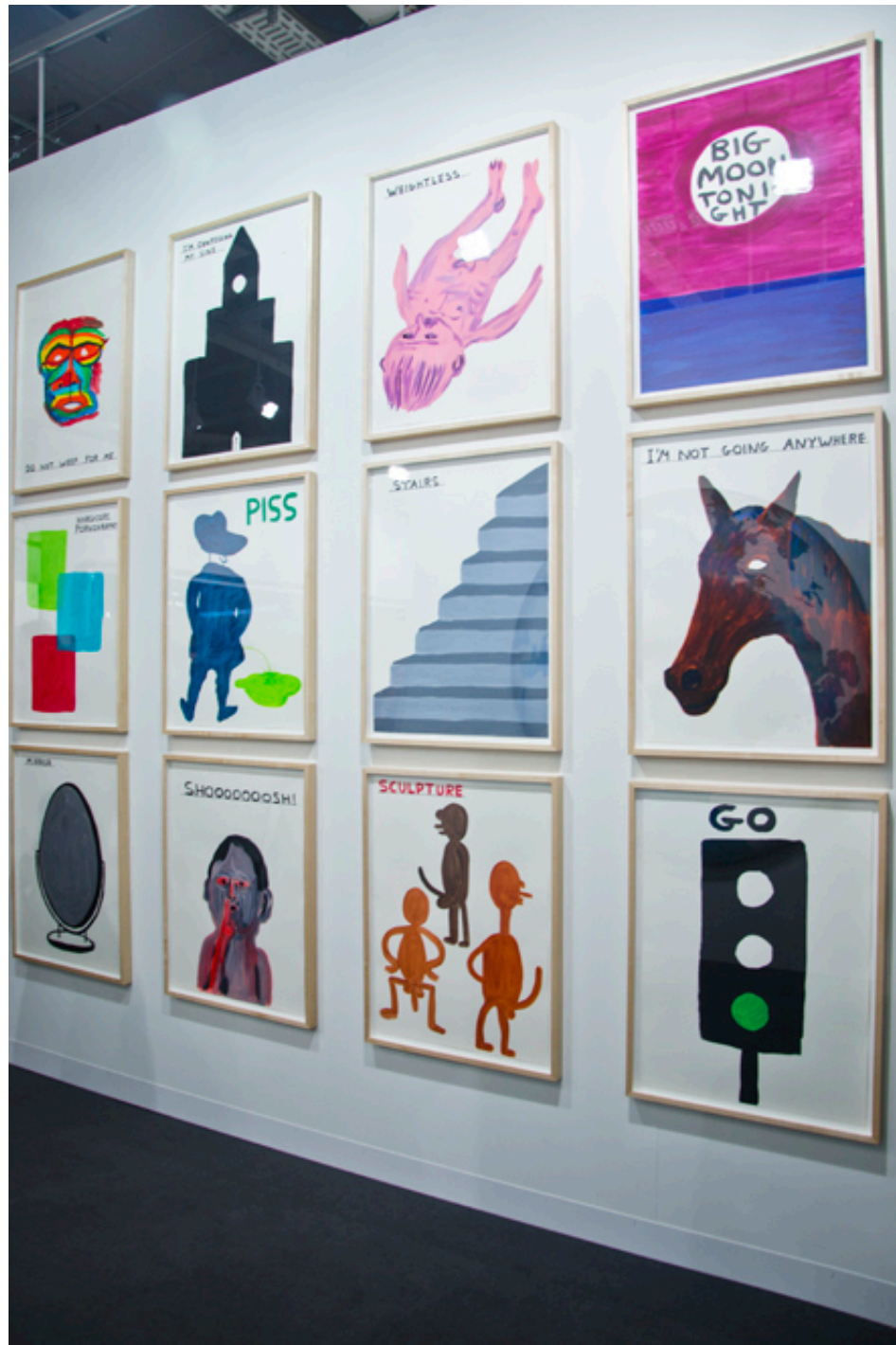
[Francesco Vezzoli](#)'s "Self portrait as Helio vs Selene by Jean Leon Gerome" (2012) from Yvon Lambert



Perrotin shows [Elmgreen Dragset](#)







Untitled (2012) work by [David Shrigley](#) from Stephen Friedman Gallery



Galerie Daniel Templon



Cindy Sherman's untitled work (1983) and [Thomas Schütte](#)'s "Grosser Geist No.9" (2000) from Skarstedt



[Chen Zhen](#)'s "Six Roots Enface Childhood" (2000) from Galleria Continua



Cajsa von Zeipel's "Hater" (2012) from Andréhn Schiptjenko



A not yet titled work by [Rodney Graham](#)

