STYLE

An Insider's Hot-Ticket Guide to Art Basel in Miami Beach

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Patrick McMullan/Patrick McMullan via Getty Images

The Perez Art Museum
UTA’s Fine Arts creative director Arthur Lewis, a longtime attendee of the international art fair — where the scene will include a LeBron retail opening — reveals his tips and must-see exhibits.

Art Basel Miami Beach, which runs Dec. 5-8 at the Miami Beach Convention Center, is one of the most dizzying art confabs to navigate, with dozens of satellite fairs, fashion events, private dinners and museum soirees happening around it. This year’s must-score off-site tickets include the Dior Men’s pre-fall 2020 fashion show Dec. 3; the grand opening of LeBron James' retail flagship Unknwn on Dec. 4 with art installations and a photo studio; and The Surf Lodge pop-up at the W South Beach, which includes a Dec. 5 dinner with ARTnews, hosted by Swizz Beatz and art adviser Lisa Schiff, who counts Leonardo DiCaprio as a client. Get behind the velvet ropes at the second annual Faena Festival Dec. 2-8 at their The Last Supper showcase of spirituality and food; Tulum’s Gitano will also land at Casa Faena Dec. 4 with a private dinner followed by disco and hanging gardens by Manscapers; Snapchat will team up with Gucci for a private party and screening of Duck Duck, a short film by Harmony Korine Dec. 4 at The Melin Building; for the fifth year Gagosian and Jeffrey Deitch co-present The Extreme Present in the Miami Design District feature works by both emerging and established artists, from Theresa Chromati and Sayre Gomez to Damien Hirst and Ed Ruscha, with an opening reception Dec. 3.

Here's how UTA Fine Arts creative director Arthur Lewis plans to navigate this year’s fair, which includes 269 galleries and a new Meridians sector featuring more than 30 large-scale installations and performances.