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Notes From Art Basel

Top Ten Miami Beach – Gae Savannah

1) Grendel space—curated by Dam, Stuhltrager, Jack the Pelican, and Rupert Ravens. Ethnically charged ritualistic ‘Memorial Poles’ by James Brown. Tar-like black smeared over magenta fur paintings by German Pitre. Glowing blue and red cyber creature by Mark Esper, and elusive lacy wood spinning disks, feathers, and video installation by Derek Larson.

2) The beaver house sculptures by Japanese artist Shintaro Miyake at Art Basel; (Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo;) and meeting Pepe Alvarez who collects Miyaki’s work.

3) The sumptuous encrusted mica reliefs of Jose Alvarez at Aqua. (Western Projects.)

4) David McDonald’s wood sculpture with medley of milky yellows at Aqua. (Traywick Contemporary.)

5) Thai soup and (whatever kind of) salad in the Net Jet VIP lounge at Art Basel with Renee Vara, Moran Bar-Kochva of the Contemporaries, and Andrew Gristina of Travelers Insurance.

6) white trash contemporary’s booth at -scope. Renegade dealer Nils Grossien trashed the staid commercial art fair mode with novel, garishly patterned confections by Michael Dorner, Oliver Ross and others.

7) The materially witty shifting sculpture by Stefan Loffelhardt at Art Basel. (Aurel Scheibler Gallery.)

8) The lavish brunch by the pool at the Sagamore and catching up with Florence Lynch, Louky of LMAK Projects, Miami Today editor, Carmen Betancourt-Lewis, Miami art consultant Stella Holmes, and British writer Jean Wainwright.

9) D. Dominick Lombardi’s graphic pattern drawings at Aqua, (Lisa Boyle Gallery) and intriguing tattoo-based works at –scope (Kasia Kay.)

10) Transparent aqua striped Thomas Zizwitz painting at Pulse. (Richard Levy Gallery.)