

# Artspace

## 10 of the Best Artworks of Art Basel Miami Beach 2016

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There's no denying that it's a particularly weird edition of Art Basel Miami Beach. With some collectors frightened off by the threat of Zika, and others wary about what President-Elect Donald Trump's continually morphing fiscal "policies" are going to mean for their net worth and stock portfolios (or companies, or livelihoods), the thin crowds on the fair's opening day seemed to be wandering around in a daze. Gallerists, trying to suit the mood, brought a number of angsty political works to let off some steam. For non-buying fair-goers, such as journalists, this all made for a great fair! Tightly curated booths, plenty of room to wander, shorter lines for Cuban sandwiches, and dealers who can spare a moment to chat—what more could you ask for, right? Here are some of the standout works in this year's edition.

### BECKY KOLSRUD

*Gymnasts With Security Gate*,  
2016  
JTT  
Around \$15,000

Remember when the most important thing in the world was renegotiating the relationship between figuration and abstraction? That was the challenging brief in contemporary painting for a while, and few artists handled it as adroitly as the 32-year-old Los Angeles painter Becky Kolsrud, whose had the ingenious idea of her painting groups of people behind the kind of security gates you see around L.A.—making it look as if the figures were somehow trapped just under the surface of that old chest-



nut of hard-edged abstraction, the grid. Starting this series in 2013, Kolsrud has had a boffo 2016, getting included in any number of hot-new-artist lists, and at JTT's booth its easy to see why. Along with the large paintings are three portraits of individuals sans scrim that have a dreamy, Picabia-esque quality. It will be very interesting to watch where Kolsrud goes from here.