

# Modern Painters Magazine's Top Picks From Frieze New York

BY MODERN PAINTERS | MAY 05, 2012



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Matt Golden's giant dragon-fly sculpture at London's Limoncello Gallery, Frieze New York (Photo © Scott Indrisek)

By consensus, the very best thing at **Frieze New York** was the way the tent allowed in natural light. But the art on view, glimpsed via the sightlines afforded by the capacious venue, was outstanding — not an easy thing to pull off in a scene far too overcrowded with fairs. Below, Modern Painters offers a number of bests, a few insights, and a couple of pans. (*To see the list in illustrated slide show form, [click here](http://artinfo.com/photo-galleries/slideshow-modern-painters-magazines-top-picks-from-frieze-new-york) (<http://artinfo.com/photo-galleries/slideshow-modern-painters-magazines-top-picks-from-frieze-new-york>).*)

1. *Best old-school collage:* **Astrid Klein** at **Spruth Magers** and **Robert Heinecken** at **Friederich Petzel**.
2. *Talk about laying a golden egg:* "Sky slipped gold decorated stone-burst egg" by **Takuro Kuwata**, **Tomio Koyama Gallery**, Tokyo.
3. *Most surprising work:* **Judith Scott's** yarn sculptures at **White Columns**, New York.
4. *Thinking beyond the support:* **Laura Owens** at **Gavin Brown's Enterprise**, New York.
5. *Try packing this one up:* **Karla Black** cellophane and nail-polish sculpture, "Become Useful"

at **Galerie Gisela Capitain**, Cologne

6. *Best video installations that could fit in a living room:* **Mika Rottenberg** and **John Kessler's** cabinet at **Nicole Klagsbrun**, New York and **Nathaniel Mellors** at **Galerie Diana Stigter**, Amsterdam.

7. *We like:* **Tatiana Trouve** at **Galerie Perrotin**, Paris.

8. *Best conceptual room at a booth:* **Katie Paterson** at **James Cohan**, New York.

9. *Best installation:* **Samara Golden** at **Night Gallery**, Los Angeles.

10. *Doing more with less:* Heroic sculpture made with cheap concrete and walkers at **Bureau** of New York. Artist **Justin Matherly** is slowly coming to own a very specific, very cool niche.

11. *Best photo op:* (/artists/anish-kapoor-3312)**Anish Kapoor** (/artists/anish-kapoor-3312)'s fiberglass sculpture at **Lisson Gallery**.

12. *Saddest-looking booth:* Gagosian's oversized stand. We imagine this guy in our photo has just bought out the full array of (/artists/rudolf-stingel-175732)**Rudolf Stingel** (/artists/rudolf-stingel-175732)s and is now on his cell trying to flip them at a profit.

13. *Best wakeup call for tired fairgoers:* Judging by the amount of work at **James Fuentes's** booth, **Josh Abelow** must make a painting every 3.5 minutes. These playfully obscene, text-heavy canvases were hung in an overstuffed salon style that was a real blast for the senses.

14. *Material for nightmares:* **Nicole Eisenman's** "Saggy Titties," a foam and oil on wood painting from 2007, on display at Berlin's **Galerie**

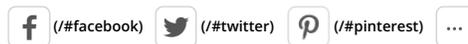
**Barbara Weiss.** It'll be haunting us for the next month, but we love it.

15. *Viscerally thrilling:* Collage-influenced, brilliantly hyperactive photos by **Michele Abeles** at New York's **47 Canal**.
16. *The perfect gift for a collector who has everything (except taste):* **Massimo De Carlo** of Milan and London showed this three panel piece by **(/artists/220314-aaron-young) (/artists/220314-aaron-young) Aaron Young (/artists/220314-aaron-young)**
17. *Gets your heart pumping:* Since no one in the art world has ever seen cocaine before, you should stop by **Galerie Lelong** (<http://www.artinfo.com/galleryguide/285548/307773/home-overview>) to check out **Helio Oiticica's** photograph that incorporates the drug.
18. *Best trompe l'oeil:* A painting by **Kees Goudzwaard** at **Zeno X** of Antwerp. As we're always saying around the Modern Painters office, "Ain't nobody out there painting trompe l'oeil depictions of tape like Goudzwaard."
19. *The clock is ticking if you want to buy this one:* **Sanya Kantarovsky's** whimsical painting at **Marc Foxx** had us checking our watch. (And our wallets — yup, still too broke to actually purchase anything at Frieze.)
20. *The meme that won't quit:* We wrote about the cats-in-art trend a few issues back. And why should it? Here's **Michael St John's** piece at **Andrea Rosen**. Kurt Cobain + kittens + weird pom-pom = a certain breed of brilliant. (Full disclosure: The Modern Painters editorial team is slightly divided on the whole 'cat art' thing.)
21. *The best damn giant dragon-fly sculpture balanced on a pedestal at the whole fair:* **Matt Golden** at London's **Limoncello Gallery**.
22. *Best deal:* Cans of Bud Light on the ferry to Frieze cost \$6. That means if you buy this sculpture by **Lutz Bacher** from **Cabinet** in London, you're probably still getting a bargain even if you drink the whole thing.
23. *Grossest work:* **(/artists/sarah-lucas-112545) (/artists/sarah-lucas-112545) Sarah Lucas (/artists/sarah-lucas-112545)**'s awesomely gross "Bike" at London's **Sadie Coles**. We never want to ride it.
24. *Most ingenious:* At L.A.'s **Overduin and Kite** there were three large-scale sculptures made of charcoal and aqua-resin that resembled crumpled up sheets of construction paper by **Kaari Upson**, whose bare-bones ingenuity we heartily applaud.
25. *Best floor:* Magazine cut-outs of mountains, part of a project by **Marcello Maloberti** at **Gallerie Raffaella Cortese** of Milan.

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