

Here's What Sold at the Armory Show's VIP Preview Day

Upbeat dealers report brisk sales on preview day.

Eileen Kinsella, March 2, 2017



White Cube. Photo: artnet News.

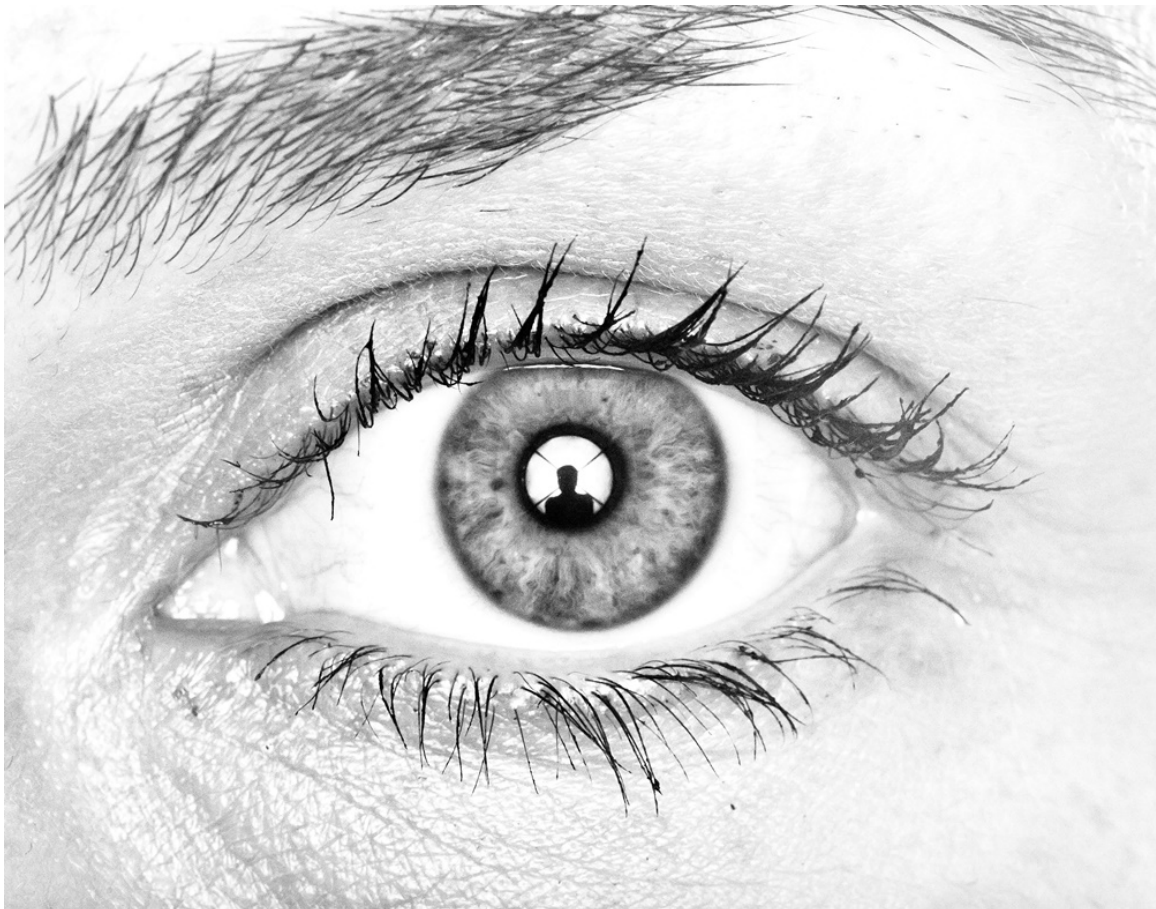
Crowds descended on the midtown piers in the Hudson River yesterday morning for the VIP preview of the latest edition of the Armory Show, and dealers were already reporting brisk sales to artnet News by mid-afternoon. Despite what some observers described as a rather tame showing of art that didn't exactly address the current political backdrop or mood, there was plenty of top-flight blue-chip work on view and buyers were obviously enthusiastic.

Fair director Benjamin Genocchio was widely praised by exhibitors and attendees for retooling the fair with new curated sections that improved the layout and better integrated the Armory Show's Modern art section that was implemented years ago with mixed success.

Kinsella, Eileen. "Here's What Sold at the Armory Show's VIP Preview Day," *Artnet News*, March 2, 2017.

“Every year this fair gets better and better,” said collector Michel Cox Witmer, a board member of the TEFAF art fair. “It’s fun to see everyone come alive in the art world, and for there to be so many satellite fairs. I saw a lot of works that I thought were really good, strong, interesting works, and intellectually stimulating. I was kind of afraid that I might see too many works on the theme of Donald Trump and political subject matter—which would be okay as long as the art is good—but I haven’t really seen that type of thing. Instead I’ve seen really strong artwork that I think has a place in art history.”

Cox Witmer also commented on the reasonable price points, noting a sculpture offered for \$19,000 that he had his eye on. “At contemporary art fairs these days, you don’t get much for \$19,000. So there are still good pieces out there that can be had.”



Fiete Stolte, *Eye*. Courtesy the artist and Albertz Benda.

Albertz Benda’s presentation of Fiete Stolte in the inaugural “Platform” sector attracted a steady stream of visitors throughout the preview. *Eye* is an interactive photo booth installation in which the silhouetted outline of the subject is reflected in his or her pupil, creating an original self-portrait work of art that can be purchased for \$100.

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