

First “Edition”

A highly specialized sector comes to Miami Beach after two decades of success in Basel. *By Laura Van Straaten*

The latest Swiss import to Art Basel in Miami Beach is the Edition sector, where a small group of exhibitors specializing in prints and multiple editions present the work of internationally renowned artists—many of whom have long-established careers in other media. Premiering this year in Miami Beach, Edition became an official sector of the original show in Basel 20 years ago, after two years as a separate fair.

Brian Rumbolo is director of the New York-based Carolina Nitsch gallery, which is devoted to helping artists “explore new possibilities that stretch the boundaries of printmaking” and has participated in Art Basel in Miami Beach since 2005. He says that in previous years, “There have always been several of us who focus on multiples who were just in with all the other galleries on the main floor and then moved around a bit year to year.”

“Certain collectors are looking specifically for editions,” says Rumbolo of work that is often lower-priced and thus a gateway for people new to collecting. Now it will be easier for those collectors to find their way within the 500,000 square feet of the convention center.

Additionally, Rumbolo seems confident that this new sector “will certainly raise the awareness and importance of editions in contemporary art, going back to Robert Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, Ed Ruscha, Richard Tuttle, and others, who view multiples as an important part of what they do and where that collaboration with technicians is integral to their artistic process,” he says.

One of the 13 Edition exhibitors this week is Singapore

Eko Nugroho's
Replacing Myself
4, 2013,
Singapore Tyler
Print Institute

Tyler Print Institute (STPI), an artist residency workshop and gallery based in Singapore that focuses on print and papermaking. The artists that STPI is exhibiting exemplify boundary-busting work with prints and paper. In addition to presenting recent work by New York-based artist Teresita Fernández and Indonesian artist Eko Nugroho (recently listed in *Art + Auction* magazine's “Top 50 under 50”), STPI is showing recent work by Turner Prize-winning sculptor Richard Deacon.

The London-based Deacon, who is renowned for his large scale public commissions and has a major retrospective opening at the Tate Britain come February, used an ancient, aqueous marbling technique on paper and elaborate folding to create colorful “buildings.” Each structure of the “Housing” series, as it is called, was inspired by the apartment towers he observed on his long perambulations throughout Singapore (the city-state is committed

to housing all citizens), during his residencies with STPI in 2011 and 2012. “It's all based on paper,” says STPI Director Emi Eu. “For Richard's collectors, the Housing series will be very exciting, as it is a new medium.”

In addition to STPI, Edition participants this week include exhibitors from seven countries. Among them are first-time Miami Beach exhibitors Alan Cristea Gallery (London), Crown Point Press (San Francisco), Gdm (Paris), Pace Prints (New York), and Paul Stolper Gallery (London).

Eu says she found a “very high caliber, intelligent audience willing to look at new names and discover new artists” when STPI exhibited at Edition in Basel last June. She and her dozen fellow exhibitors in Art Basel in Miami Beach's newest sector surely hope to enjoy more of the same as Edition debuts in Miami Beach this week. **ABMB**

