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8 Highlights From Miami Art Week

By Kat Herriman Dec. 7, 2017

With more than 20 fairs, countless parties and several off-site installations to explore, Miami Art Week is not for the faint of heart. This year, with the opening of ICA Miami, the relaunch of the Bass and Studio Drift's fleet of 300 drones flying by night, the whole spectacle felt as saturated as ever. Here, your guide on what not to miss — or, if you're not making the trip, the things to know about — in Miami.

Design Miami Makes the Case for More Family Time

This year, Design Miami offers up its coziest iteration yet, not in terms of space and galleries, but in terms of objects and materials that veer toward the warm, natural and communal. Long wooden dining room tables by designers Pierre Chapo, Sergio Rodrigues and Gal Gaon anchored the booths of Magen H Gallery, R & Company and Hostler Burrows, in that order — all alluding to larger gatherings. "I think we are looking for moments to have dinners at home with friends and families," says Design Miami's executive director, Rodman Primack, of the trend. "The world is in a really complicated, scary moment. We are all shifting, values are shifting. People are beginning to understand that what they consume defines who they are. You have ethics and ideas about what you want to bring into your life and that is reflected in the furniture, art and clothing you buy."

A prime example of this philosophy plays out in Converso's booth, a first-timer at the fair, where an entire living room designed by the iconoclastic California Modernist Albert Frey is on display. The economy and simple lines of the set hint at a focus on the people who inhabit a space — rather than the objects.

Art Basel Miami Beach is open from Wednesday, Dec. 6 to Sunday, Dec. 10 at <u>Meridian Avenue &</u> <u>19th Street</u>, Miami Beach, Fla.