

Art

5 Artists on Our Radar in May 2021

Artsy Curatorial and Artsy Editorial

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"Artists on Our Radar" is a monthly series produced collaboratively by Artsy's Editorial and Curatorial teams. Utilizing our art expertise and access to Artsy data, each month, we highlight five artists who have our attention. To make our selections, we've determined which artists made an impact this past month through new gallery representation, exhibitions, auctions, art fairs, or fresh works on Artsy.

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Amy Beager

B. 1988, Billericay, England. Lives and works in Chelmsford, England.



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Combining classical Grecian figures with fresh, abstract shapes, British artist Amy Beager pays a clever homage to art history. Last year, Beager made her mark on the art world as a winner of the <u>Delphian Gallery</u> open call. Her works later appeared at London's <u>Saatchi Gallery</u>, as part of the group show "Antisocial Isolation." Recently, the Chelmsford-based artist opened a solo show with <u>Offshoot Arts</u>, titled "<u>The Torches Burn Bright</u>," which features a series of paintings inspired by William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

Captivated by the "vitality" of paint, Beager uses a lively mixture of refined and fluid brushstrokes, blending acrylics and oils to create celestial paintings rooted in melodrama. Her romantic compositions, exploring themes of love and tragedy, convey intimacy and melancholy through an alluring color palette of delicate hues like moss green and flamingo pink.



Amy Beager Locket, 2021 Offshoot Arts

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Amy Beager Leap, 2021 Offshoot Arts

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Beager continues to develop her practice, incorporating line work and layering to further amplify hidden narratives. Her recent work experiments with texture through the use of paper and fabric

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B. 1990, Everett, Washington. Lives and works in New York.





Gustav Hamilton It's less traveled for a reason, 2021 David B. Smith Gallery Sold

Gustav Hamilton Could this be my swan song, 2020 David B. Smith Gallery Sold

In his delightful ceramic paintings and sculptures, Gustav Hamilton weaves together imagined narratives based around his own past works, family heirlooms, and the works of artists he admires, like <u>Ron Nagle</u> and <u>Jun Kaneko</u>. His recent solo show at <u>David B. Smith</u> <u>Gallery</u> in Denver, Colorado, "<u>A Sucker for the Souvenir</u>." featured ceramic paintings — the works Hamilton is becoming best known for — brimming with deft trompe l'oeil details and other tropes plucked from art history. These handmade stoneware panels, each one a sort of large, glazed tile featuring still lifes and domestic interiors, are playfully self-referential: They feature the ubiquitous ceramic tile, with floors, walls, kitchen counters, sills, and alcoves lined with those familiar, manufactured squares.



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Hamilton's three-dimensional works embrace a similar language of tiles, optical illusions, and art historical nods. Last fall, he put on a one-day show with Zoe Fisher Projects, where he staged a series of sculptural tables in a Brooklyn park. With works that were equally inspired by <u>Magritte</u> and the artistic antics of the classic *Looney Tunes* character Wile E. Coyote, the show offered a brief moment of surrealistic escapism.

An MFA grad from New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University – known for its prestigious ceramics program – Hamilton is now based in New York, where he also teaches ceramics. Recently, he's expanded his practice to painting.

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Donna Huddleston

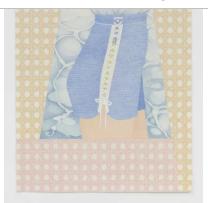
B. 1970, Belfast, Northern Ireland. Lives and works in London.



Donna Huddleston Costume Drama, 2020 Simon Lee Gallery

In Donna Huddleston's ethereal images, femininity is edged with threat. In <u>All Nighter</u> (2019), a pair of scissors is pictured with its blades open, as though mid-cut. In <u>Costume Drama</u> (2020), recently featured in Artsy's "<u>Newly Represented</u>" online show, a woman in a hoop skirt and wide brim hat holds a rifle at her side. Working in silver point. Caren d'ache popeil, and acuesha Huddleston's softly

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Donna Huddleston TD 1, 2020 Simon Lee Gallery

Donna Huddleston All Nighter, 2019 Simon Lee Gallery

Huddleston's background in theater design contributes to the careful composition and sense of balance in her work. Born in Belfast, the artist grew up in Australia, where she studied at the National School of Art in Sydney, and is now based in London. Her work has recently gained attention following her 2019 solo show "The Exhausted Student" at the <u>Drawing Room</u> and her new representation with <u>Simon Lee Gallery</u>, which will host her forthcoming solo exhibition later this year.

-Leah Gallant

Gabriella Sanchez

B. 1988, Pasadena, California. Lives and works in Los Angeles.



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In Gabriella Sanchez's mystifying collage paintings, the artist's femme-identifying friends and family hold the viewer captive. Her current solo exhibition, "<u>Rough Renderings of Sharp Images</u>," on view at <u>Taymour Grahne Projects</u> through June 5th, offers a reprieve from the voyeuristic portraits of the female form that audiences are used to.

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Informed by a background in graphic design, the artist's mixedmedia works are marked by a distinctive aesthetic: scrawled tags in Sharpie, painted Helvetica fonts, images that tiptoe between figuration and abstraction, and references to art history that invite the viewer to solve the sprawling, puzzle-like paintings. By intentionally leaving the faces of her loved ones clean of abstraction and saturating the bodies and background with colors and texture, Sanchez maintains the women's privacy and reveals only what her subjects want to reveal.





 Gabriella Sanchez
 Gabriella Sanchez

 WE REAP WHAT WE SEW (Past and Present Patt...
 Anyone, 2018

 Taymour Grahne Projects
 Charlie James Gallery

Sanchez's enticing visual language recalls the wry photomontages of <u>John Baldessari</u>, yet at the same time, she subverts viewers' expectations of the subject and object in portraiture.

Sanchez received her BFA from Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, California, in 2011. Since 2017, she has been showing with the Los Angeles-based <u>Charlie James Gallery</u>, where she had solo shows in 2018 and 2019; the gallery also showed her work in presentations at <u>Frieze Los Angeles</u> and <u>The Armory Show</u> in 2020. In 2021, Sanchez will have a solo show at the <u>Museum of Latin</u> <u>American Art</u> in Long Beach, California, and her work is currently

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and works in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.





Inspired by the landscape and people of his native Trinidad, Che Lovelace paints abstracted figures, flora, and fauna that celebrate the spirit of his country. In particular, central to Lovelace's work is Trinidad's annual Carnival, known as Mas. His figurative paintings often depict masqueraders dressed as the traditional characters of Carnival, such as the Blue Devil.

To better embody the essence and movement of Carnival characters, Lovelace will stage performances and use video footage from them as reference imagery for his paintings. From a palm tree blowing in the wind to a masquerader dancing down the street, Lovelace has a unique ability to translate motion through painting.



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Lovelace recently held his second solo show in the U.S. with Various Small Fires in Los Angeles; his first was held in 2017 at Half Gallery in New York. The works from his recent exhibition were met with a flurry of inquiries on Artsy. Lovelace's paintings were recently featured in Artsy's "Newly Represented" show with Various Small Fires, which started representing him in 2020.

-Juliana Lopez

Explore more works by artists on our radar.

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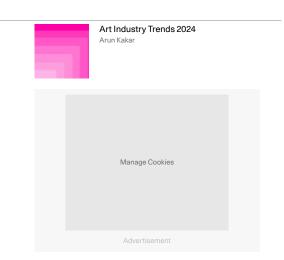
Interior view of Liste Art Fair Basel, 2024. Photo by Moritz Schermbach. Courtesy of Liste Art Fair Basel.

On Monday, the VIP opening of <u>Liste Art Fair Basel</u> was heralded with the sound of clinking glasses in the Swiss sunshine and a healthy queue of visitors. Returning to the same section of Messe Basel for its 29th edition, the fair once again affirmed its curatorial eye for inviting experimentation and tastemaking exhibitors. As the opening hours of the fair ticked past, VIPs in attendance seemed to be responding with enthusiasm.

"This year, we are once again able to present the most promising new galleries and their artists to an international audience of experts," said Peter Bläuer, who co-founded the fair with Eva Presenhuber in 1996. "It makes me very happy to once again work with Stiftung Liste Basel on this important task of helping to promote a future generation of galleries. What could be better than supporting and helping?"



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With 93 exhibitors from 35 countries, the fair succeeds in being both broad in scope and easy to peruse, thanks in part to its famous circular booth layout where exhibitors are formatted in an openplan style. Browsing sometimes feels like dropping by someone's living room. And at a time when art fairs are so overwhelmingly dominated by painting, the mix of media on view from galleries here offers something of a palate cleanser for even the most seasoned visitors among the crowds.

With Art Basel opening its VIP preview the day after Liste's opening, the fair was also well stocked with an international clientele. And gallerists were quick to point out the range of the fair's attendees. "We not only have good clients here but it's also curators, and people from all over the world," said Pier Stuker Alvarez, a partner at the emerging Zürich gallery <u>Blue Velvet</u>. "They see Liste as a filter of the best young galleries worldwide."



Adam Cruces, installation view in Blue Velvet's booth at Liste Art Fair Basel, 2024. Photo by Moritz Schermbach. Courtesy of Liste Art Fair Basel.

Its standout booth of works by <u>Adam Cruces</u> featured giant Winston cigarettes (made not from tobacco but polyester and polyurethane) leaning against the back wall, flanked by iron-shaped mirrored aluminum works—the "irony of irons" as Alvarez described it. There's also a <u>sculpture</u> of a tiny fortune cookie perched on its

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a longstanding trend in the fair's programming. Many exhibitors are treating their fair presentations here like small gallery shows, finding fresh ways to introduce their new, sometimes young, artists. Among the most effective in this regard is the immersive booth of London-, L.A.-, and Lagos-based <u>Rele</u>, which is showcasing works by <u>Gladys Kalichini</u>, including a performative video and a series of textile prints and ceramic works.

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Gladys Kalichini Uyu mukate upela ubumi (...This bread gives life), 2024 Rele Price on request

Exploring the roles played by women in Zambian society through the connective elements of fabric and water, the booth was met by sustained attention from viewers throughout the day. "It's different for us, but we thought it was a very important story," said gallery founder Adinrele Soniwaro. "This work is very much about women and making sure that they're not erased from history. And this is a different iteration of some of the installations she's done in the past." The works are priced between \$2,000 and \$4,000.

Barcelona gallery BomBon Projects took a similar approach, featuring a collection of sculptures by <u>Ludovica Carbotta</u> that are inspired by urban spaces and constructed by projecting pieces of real places into fictional environments. "It's about finding a balance," said Bernat Daviu of the gallery when discussing the booth's layout. "We're trying to be quite loyal to the specificity of the sculptures, but at the same time, we want to single out the objects or the sculptures in themselves." The works, priced between \$4,000 and \$15,000, were attracting attention throughout the day.

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Melissa Joseph Kosmo, 2024 Margot Samel On hold

Melissa Joseph Dad on the Roberto Clemente Bridge, 2024 Margot Samel Sold

A similarly inventive booth format is found at New York-based gallery Margot Samel's solo presentation of works by Melissa Loseph, where found objects such as vintage lunch boxes and accordions become frames for scenes of musical communion, rendered in felted wool. The works (priced from \$6,500 to \$11,000) are around 7 by 13 inches in size and dotted around walls and the floor of the booth, inviting visitors to crouch down and get up close. "I just pictured them here on the floor space," said gallery founder Samel. "They're so tiny and really impactful."

Other booths also asked visitors to peer closer: L.A. dealer Francois Ghebaly presented works by Indian artist <u>Ragini Bhow</u>, a dark series of pointillist abstractions in crushed crystal, mica, and flashe on birch. A metallic sculpture with splayed ash across the floor further impedes the visitor's access. Bringing the floor work, an earlier piece from the artist's career, was an important step, explained Ghebaly. "The ritual of burning objects is something that is very important in [Bhow's] sculptural practice, and we felt like it was very important to show the ash, and the essence and the starting point for our relationship." Works here are priced from \$6,00 to \$16,000.



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attention to isn't merely a curatorial quirk, but a tried and tested formula, especially when executed by tastemaking galleries. London and Addis Ababa gallery <u>Addis Fine Art</u> is among the sophomore attendees at the fair that is returning after an "overwhelmingly brilliant" first outing, according to Kate Kirby, a sales and business director at the gallery.

This year, the gallery is presenting a series of paintings and works on paper by <u>Selome Muleta</u> that skilfully interrogate the relationship between women and domestic spaces through ambiguous boundaries and splashes of exuberant color. In the outstanding 2023 diptych *Immersion XII*, limbs and heads protrude from a bathtub in a vividly enigmatic scene. "There's a real psychological complexity that I think follows through her entire body of work," explained Kirby. "We felt like this was just a phenomenal opportunity for her to get that kind of exposure, and so far, [we] have already been having great conversations." Works are priced from \$4,000 to \$32,000.



Emma McMillan Flesh, 2024 PHILIPPZOLLINGER Sold

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Chris Oh Cella, 2024 Capsule Price on request

Another returning fair attendee, Zürich gallerist <u>Philipp Zollinger</u>, is also showing newer works, in a solo presentation of the painter <u>Emma McMillan</u>. Here, six blurrily figurative paintings of magnified insects border on the abstract. "I usually bring the newest addition of artists to the fair because it makes sense to spread the word and have it seen by as many people as possible, and to position the artist in the program," said the gallerist, who noted that five of the works were on hold within the opening hours of the fair.

While solo booths made up the vast majority of the fair, there were also some strong group presentations. At Shanghai and Venice

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Installation view of Capsule's booth at Liste Art Fair Basel, 2024. Courtesy of Capsule.

The gallery's three-artist presentation explores themes of transcendence and mortality through the lens of art history, whether in <u>Surrealist</u>-tinged paintings by <u>Cai Zebin</u> or formally inventive sculptures by <u>Leelee Chan</u> that combine materials such as metal lampshades with steel wheels and polystyrene foam. The standout of the booth is a series of agate slices and burl slabs by <u>Chris Oh</u> that are painted with details from Renaissance scenes, faces, and figures. Works are priced between \in 5,500 and \notin 20,000 (around \$5360 and \$21,450).

This booth perhaps encapsulates the multifaceted approach of this fair, where experimentation isn't just encouraged, but rewarded, too. At a time when the art market at large is often accused of a safety-first approach to programming, Liste offers a bright picture of emerging galleries and the groundswell of artistic talent that they support.

Arun Kakar Arun Kakar is Artsy's Art Market Editor.

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Your Guide to Art Basel 2024, according to Experts

Arun Kakar

Jun 10, 2024 8:14PM

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Photo by Claudio Schwarz via Unsplash.

If art fairs were animals, Art Basel might be a lion: top of the food chain, majestic to behold, but also pretty intimidating to approach.

Since its foundation in 1970, Art Basel's flagship art fair has steadily maintained its reputation as arguably the most important event of the art market calendar. Every year, more than 250 leading contemporary art galleries descend on the genteel Swiss city, bringing with them an international troupe of art world luminaries.

Not only does the fair itself take place in the hulking 141,000-squaremeter Messe Basel convention center, it's merely a part of a thrumming agenda of activity across the Swiss city. Other art fairs such as Design Miami, <u>Liste</u>, Basel Social Club, June Art Fair, and

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from what to wear to where to eat.

How to prepare for Art Basel

Prep smart



Courtesy of Art Basel.

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Once your week starts at Art Basel, it's unlikely to stop. A **portable phone charger** was recommended among the must-pack items from most people Artsy spoke to. "Once you leave your hotel, you can really be out and about all day and all night," said Patricia Amberg, senior art advisor with UBS Family Advisory, Art & Collecting and a longtime Art Basel attendee.

Loading up on snacks is another thing to be mindful of during busy periods. Sara Fitzmaurice, CEO of the arts PR firm Fitz & Co and an Art Basel attendee for more than two decades, recommends a preliminary stop at a **Coop supermarket**. "Long days with little time for breakfast or lunch mean having healthy snacks in my room is a must," she noted. "I also load up on bottled water to stay hydrated throughout the week."

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Ahead of the fair, it's always useful to do some reading to earmark the booths and areas that you might want to check out. Here are some handy ways of doing so:

- Check out <u>Art Basel's guide to the galleries and sectors at the</u> <u>fair</u>. <u>Download the PDF floor plan of the fair</u> to highlight which galleries you want to see.
- Read <u>Artsy's preview of the 10 shows to see during the fair</u>.
- Sign up for the local magazine <u>Bebbi Zine's daily digest</u>, a recommendation from Basel locals Hester and Stefan <u>von Bartha</u>:
 "A newsletter each morning during Art Basel with all the best events, openings, and parties."

Dress chic-but keep things practical



Courtesy of Art Basel.

Α

Art Basel hosts no shortage of eye-catching looks, but for a day that requires being on one's feet throughout, practicality is as much a consideration as style. Mathieu Paris, a senior director at <u>White</u> <u>Cube</u>, opts for "classic navy-blue suits paired with Nike sneakers," while Isabella Icoz, a partner at <u>Lehmann Maupin</u>, typically wears "a dress with either flats or sneakers. Unfortunately, high heels and me are not a good combo!"

Fitzmaurice goes for "dress pants, layered with a silk blouse with a sweater or scarf, as the weather can change from cold to hot." She recommends cool sneakers and keeps her phone "out and handy on a crossbody strap," and carries "a wallet-purse to keep things light and simple."

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How to navigate the Art Basel fair

Make a plan



Exterior view of Art Basel with Agnes Denes, Honouring Wheatfield - A Confrontation, 2024. Courtesy of Art Basel.

With some 285 exhibitors at this year's edition of Art Basel, it's wise to have an idea of how you might take on the fair before you get there. Some plot out specific booths to visit, while others are methodical about walking every aisle.

"I always plan my course the day before and leverage the printed floor plan, checking off galleries that I have seen," said Fitzmaurice. "I take notes on my phone regarding interesting artists, and conversations to follow up on, and capture photos of works that caught my eye (don't forget to shoot the wall label)."

Zeng Shu, a curator at the Sixi Museum in Nanjing and a seasoned Basel pro, ticks off the names on her list first and then walks through the lanes of the fair methodically, so as not to miss anything. "There are always some surprises," she noted.

Don't beat yourself up if you find yourself walking in circles at the Messe, noted Stefan von Bartha. "Even though we have been showing at Art Basel for almost 50 years, there is always one member of the staff who gets lost during the week," he said.

"I do not follow a specific strategy when navigating the booths. I always make a point to systematically explore every booth at the fair, aisle by aisle, keeping my mind open for discovery," said Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, an esteemed art collector and president

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my senses leads to striking encounters with history or contemporary designs that define our times," he said.

Keep the energy high

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Art Basel is a marathon, not a sprint. Whether you're making deals or blowing air kisses, keeping the energy flowing is key.

White Cube's Mathieu Paris goes for "a full protein diet" of bratwurst every lunch and veal "à la Zurichoise" every dinner. Meanwhile, Stefan von Bartha eschews alcohol and goes for "cold showers, good music in the morning, rushes of adrenaline, and hopefully many inspiring conversations at the booth."

Schwarzwälder prepares for a day at the fair by "meditating and exercising early in the mornings" to give "strength and calm for an entire intense day at the fair."

Zeng fixes on the tried and tested combination of coffee and cake ("caffeine plus sugar") to keep the motor running throughout the day. Longtime Art Basel exhibitor Kamel Mennour, of Parisian stalwart <u>Mennour</u>, recommends a series of small breaks to keep levels high. "I am a very energetic person, so it is not difficult for me to maintain high energy throughout the fair," he told Artsy. "I can't wait to start my day, so I wake up very early and include in my routine short periods of relaxation to stay focused and refreshed."

Top tip: Don't make the VIP day your only visit to Art Basel. Our insiders noted it's worth returning for the "second hang" of new works that rotate into some fair booths on Wednesday."Some booths are going to be totally different," Zeng noted.

Must-sees during Art Basel Week 2024

Unlimited

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Installation view of Gagosian's presentation at Art Basel Unlimited, 2024. Courtesy of Art Basel.

Also in the Messeplatz, Art Basel's Unlimited sector is dedicated to "monumental" installations exhibited by galleries in the main fair. It's "like a walk in the park, just in a fair hall surrounded by art," as Stefan von Bartha aptly put it. Recommendations of what to look out for in the 2024 Unlimited sector include:

- Mark Manders's work with <u>Tanya Bonakdar Gallery</u> and <u>Xavier</u> <u>Hufkens</u>, recommended by Sandretto Re Rebaudengo. "I first met Mark in 2000 and followed his practice closely over the last 24 years," she said. "His work features prominently in my collection."
- "Don't miss seeing Chilean Swiss artist <u>Francisco Sierra's Guppy</u> installation – a project we supported and realized," said Von Bartha.
- Alicja Kwade's sculpture, recommended by Mennour. "Kwade is unrivaled in encouraging us to reflect on our relationship with the world," he said.

Off-site installations



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