

invaluable

10 Contemporary Artists to Watch

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In anticipation of The Armory Show (March 3-6) in New York and other exciting art fairs generating buzz in the booming contemporary art world, you might feel the urge to attend, or at the very least, start thinking about your own collection.

For new collectors, it's about first getting comfortable with the art market, says Paul Kotakis, Director of Annual and Alumni Programs at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. As a first step, consider tapping into smaller local resources like art schools, community art centers, and other arts nonprofits. Start gaining a level of comfort with those audiences, he says, to hopefully build relationships with artists directly.

"I like to really explain to new collectors the full story behind a particular artist; where they came from, and where they're going in both life and career," he says. "If you find an artist you love early on in their career then you can be a part of their trajectory and success, and in turn ride the waves of that success. All along the way, you should maintain your cheerleader position for these artists. You're not just investing in an object, you're investing in a person."

We sat down with Kotakis to curate a starter list of talented contemporary artists to watch and cheer on. Some on this list have had significant successes and you will find them at the NY fairs this week, and others are recent graduates who are new to the gallery world.



"Amazon Books" by Daniel Rich, acrylic on Dibond, 59.5 x 72 in., 2013

Daniel Rich (b. 1977 in Ulm, Germany)

Daniel Rich translates photographs into paintings that call attention to political and social narratives. "The architectural image is represented in my work to introduce a dialogue about changing political power structures, failed utopias, the impacts of ideological struggles, war, and natural upheavals," he says.

"I am interested in the highly symbolic role architecture plays in politics and its power to function as an icon of our lived experience."

Rich has exhibited his work at The Maramotti Collection in Reggio Emilia, Italy, at Mario Diacono Gallery in Boston and in New York at Peter Blum Gallery, Elizabeth Dee Gallery, and Horton Gallery.

Upcoming Shows: The Armory Fair Pier 94, exhibited by Peter Blum Gallery, Booth 711, New York (March 3-6)
Group show at Anna Marra Contemporary, Rome (June, 2016)

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