

April 8, 2015

An insider's guide to the best events surrounding Dallas Art Fair 2015

By Kendall Morgan



Friends With You's Light Cave is on display at the Dallas Contemporary April 8-12. *Photo by Alyssa Ringler*



A work by Jos de Gruyter and Harald Thys from *Die Schmutzigen Puppen Von Pommern* at the Power Station. *Photo courtesy of De Gruyter and Thys*



Actualization of Claude Rutault's *de-finition/method* "rehearsal" at Le Confort Moderne, 2012. *Photo by Y. Michaud*



An image from Hunter Barnes' "Redneck Roundup" at VOD. *Photo courtesy of Milk Group*



A work by Geoff Hippenstiel from New York's Makebish Gallery. *Photo courtesy of Makebish Gallery, New York*



A Dan Colen work from And Now Gallery. *Photo courtesy of And Now*



Scene from the 2014 Eye Ball. *Photo by Billy Farrell*

Anchored by the Dallas Art Fair (April 10-12 at Fashion Industry Gallery), Dallas Arts Week has risen to a level of prominence so high sites such as Artsy.com feel compelled to devote a thousand words to its influence. (Even if they do consider our fair city's scene "disproportionate" in its impact — we beg to disagree.)

The truth of the matter is, the high-profile happenings surrounding the fair have trickled down into the indie arts scene, and there are more must-see shows both on and off the official roster than ever before. Beyond Thursday's Preview Gala, Friday's MTV RE:DEFINE and Saturday's Art Ball — and, yes, the fair itself and the major museum exhibitions — here is an easy-to-follow guide of some of the best events.

Wednesday, April 8

Available to view with a Patron Pass, the **Power Station's** *Die Schmutzigen Puppen Von Pommern* by **Jos de Gruyter and Harald Thys** features oversized puppets with a distinct outsider art edge, although they are technically the descendants of an executioner family in 12th century Pomerania, in case you were curious. These Belgian artists' deadpan works will be on view through June 12 for those who can't make it out to Wednesday's 7 to 9 pm opening soiree.

If there weren't enough reasons to visit the Dallas Contemporary for Wednesday's opening (**David Salle, Nate Lowman** and ArtPrize winner **Anila Quayyum Agha** among them), the Los Angeles-based duo **Friends With You** is bringing their large-scale experiential symbol of light and connectivity to the museum through Sunday. Known for their super-sweet if slightly twee canvases, sculptures and installations, Friends With You's *Light Cave* is sure to put a smile on every fairgoer's face.

Thursday, April 9

As a prelude to the much-anticipated **Soluna Festival**, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra hosts the musical installation *de-finition/method listening to painting / looking at music* by French artist **Claude Rutault**, beginning at 2 pm at the Meyerson Symphony Center. Rutault's highly conceptual pieces transform the wall into the artwork, and the unveiling of this ambitious marriage between sound and vision shouldn't be missed.

Friday, April 10

Photographer **Hunter Barnes**, who splits his time between rural Oregon and New York City, gets by with a little help from his friends — namely supermodel **Erin Wasson** and V.O.D. owner **Jackie Bolin**. These two have convinced their pal to bring works from his "Redneck Roundup" series to Bolin's fashion-forward Victory Park boutique for an opening from 5 to 7 pm.

Saturday, April 11

For those that didn't score admission to the Art Ball (or the Wasson and Bolin-hosted after party DJed by **Solange**), there are a few consolation prizes. The spirit of New York's Lower East Side is taking over the Cedars, with a host of young gallerists showing envelope-pushing work.

Patrons can kick off the evening with a 5:30 champagne toast for **Chivas Clem** at **Erin Cluley's** space on the other side of the bridge. Next, New York's **Peter Makebish** has teamed up with **RE Gallery's Wanda Dye** for a satellite show from 6 to 9 pm at 1505 Gano St. Houston, Dallas and New York-based artists on view include **Chris Bexar, Christopher Deeton, Alika Herreshoff, Geoff Hippenstiel, Chris Kysor, Max Snow** and **Benjamin Terry**.

RE also will unveil a temporary installation by Houston artist **Falon Land Studio** across from its main space. Next door, **Homeland Security** hosts a collaborative show with the Milwaukee-based experimental space **American Fantasy Classics**.

Also from 6 to 9 pm is **And Now**'s one-man show with paintings and sculptures from the former "bad boy of New York art" **Dan Colen**, who has exhibited at the Whitney, PS1 Contemporary Art Center and the Brandt Foundation Art Study Center. His beauty-is-trash aesthetic is sure to be even more impactful in And Now's intimate space.

Finally — for anyone who can stay out that late — the evening's after-after party, with hosts Wasson, **Samantha McCurdy** and **David Quadrini**, is taking over artist McCurdy's **That That** space in Deep Ellum into the wee hours.

Sunday, April 12

If you were lucky enough to score an invite to last year's **Eye Ball** at The Joule, you know that artist **Tony Tasset**'s iconic sculpture surrounded by the best and brightest art world denizens made for some enchanted evening. This year's event closes out the week and promises to draw an equally stellar list of boldfaced names to see **Leon Bridges** and **Quaker City Night Hawks** perform under the stars.