

CULTURE 05.18.23

## What to See at Frieze New York and Beyond

All of the highlights from the city's spring art fair bonanza.

by Laura van Straaten

## Spring/Break Art Show

<u>Spring/Break Art Show</u>, which opened last week, is on view daily through May 20, an unusually extended period. Perhaps the co-founding directors <u>Ambre Kelly</u>, an artist, and her husband Andrew Gori decided to make up for the impromptu nature of this year's fair with a long run. After some hedging, the couple rallied last minute to produce and install work by a whopping 124 artists. In a shift, they've staged this as a salon-style group show in the four classically proportioned rooms of what was 11 years ago the fair's first venue: the former school linked to Old St. Patrick's Cathedral in Soho. All told, Spring/Break is a welcome, practically serene experience compared to other fairs so far this season.

The pair collaborated only with curators and/or artists who've participated in past editions of the fair. This includes Chris Bors, Anne Spalter, Janet Loren Hill and the terrific textile artist <u>Liz Collins</u>, showing her two bright paintings with ponytails of shiny fibers threaded through.

Spring/Break is loosely curated thematically, with one room devoted to the natural world, one to domestic architecture, and one to what Kelly calls "the vice room," with examinations of fast food, booze, and the like.

As it has been in the past, a highlight is Vermont artist <u>Megan Bogonovich</u>'s tabletop ceramics that read like floral arrangements on acid. All but three of the nearly 100 on view sold out last year and this year, colorful stickers marking "sold" already dotted the checklist like a winning Bingo card just two days into the fair. In the same room are Kirchner-colored abstracted landscapes from <u>Peter Gynd</u>.

Another highlight is <u>Steve Paddack</u>'s tragicomic collection of "personal islands," with each small square painting portraying an imaginary house isolated atop its own tiny island with titles like "Island of Personal Failure" and "Personal Island of Lost Vocabulary."