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CRITIC'S VIEW: 8 Artist To Know at PULSE Miami Beach

By Pat Rogers
December 9, 2015

PULSE Miami Beach cleared their decks and closed on Saturday but the memory of the art seen continues on. The art fair expanded considerably from last year's edition by adding a second tent to its art fair set by the sea. PULSE plans an equal expansion for its upcoming edition in New York City in March 2016. With the expansion in Miami Beach also came a more polished fair. Video art played a much smaller part than last year but otherwise the fair kept steady in quality and booth presentation.

PULSE Miami Beach featured many of its expected exhibitors, some presenting a similar roster of artists, but also added new galleries, which breathed variety into the fair.

TEGENE KUNBI

I became enamored with paintings by Tegene Kunbi after seeing them at PULSE New York in 2014. At that art fair, Margaret Thatcher Projects presented a solo show of the work. Channeling a variety of cultural influences, Kunbi creates paintings with bands of thick color made from thick brush strokes that infuse the works with texture.

By the time I passed by the booth at PULSE Miami Beach, there were only a few paintings remaining by Tegene Kunbi. Having seen an extensive array of paintings previously, the paintings remained strong and were standouts at this year's booth.



Top: Tegene Kunbi, *Fireeater*, 2015, Oil on canvas, 59 x 47 inches (150 x 120 cm)
Bottom: Tegene Kunbi, *Execution*, 2015, Oil on canvas, 47 x 39 inches (120 x 100 cm)