

# ARTINFO

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## The Nine Best (and Five Worst) Booths of Armory Show 2011



### NEW YORK—BEST

1. The funniest and most engaging work in the fair is the multiscreen video project "The Upstate Olympics" by **Tim Davis** at the **Greenberg Van Doren Gallery** booth.
2. With its penny floor by **Ry Rocklen** and stacked silkscreen paintings by **Andrew Hahn**, **Untitled Gallery** has provided an apt reflection of the fair environment: a warehouse of work propped up by a bed of money.
3. **Alison Jacques Gallery** deserves praise for its single-artist installation of lush, dark paintings by **Ryan Mosley**.
4. At **Knoedler & Company**, the dozens of inventive, small paintings on bingo cards by **John Walker** are a playful delight that left us wishing we had \$15,000 to spare.
5. **Gary Snyder/Project Space** has proven **Sven Lukin's** "Snug" sculpture — sort of a lovable cartoon entraitl — to be the perfect compliment for **Nicholas Krushenick's** late 60s blue-and-yellow abstract painting.
6. Kudos to **Galerie Ludorff** for a terrific presentation in the fair's Modern section that is well-suited to our highlights reel: A vertical row of modest **Richter** abstractions, a watercolor by **Emil Nolde**, two small **Sam Francis** pieces, and a simple-but-weird **Max Ernst** landscape from 1955.
7. **Susan Sheehan Gallery's** well-curated arrangement of prints, including work by **Ellsworth Kelly** and a complete set of ten **Judd** woodcut prints (selling for \$165,000), makes the booth worth a visit.
8. The awesomely-named Dublin gallery **Mother's Tankstation** has brought a quiet, eclectic mix of work, the highlight of which is simple, everyday landscapes, rendered in oil on board, by **Mairead O'hEocha**.
9. In the spectacle category, we found **Sam Van Aken's** "New Edens" exhibition of fruit trees at **Ronald Feldman Gallery** to be ecologically intriguing. Meanwhile, the **Ivan Navarro** neon fence that made up

# Greenberg Van Doren Gallery

NEW YORK

the entirety of **Paul Kasmin**'s booth was either a brilliant stunt or just a stunt, depending on how dark the lenses of your shades were.

## WORST

1. The award for the worst feature of this year's fair goes — drum roll, please — to the **Armory Show** itself. Tiny booths, too many exhibitors, and an anyone-who-can-pay attitude toward choosing galleries all made this year's edition a grim, gray trade fair.
2. The silly, panting-after-a-fad 3-D video by the **Bluesoup Group** at **XL Gallery** booth reminded us that not all technology is good technology.
3. For its booth in the Modern section, **Nohra Haime Gallery** has put two monumental pieces in the center: the gaudy and golden "Horus" (1990) by **Niki de Saint Phalle** and a large bronze abstract sculpture by **Sophia Vari**. "Green," a 1985 painting by **Pierre Dunoyer**, completes a trifecta of awfulness.
4. Giving this one to **Honor Fraser** hurts, since we're normally big fans of the Los Angeles gallery. We would've loved to have seen paintings from **Annie Lapin**, [featured by Modern Painters as one of "Nine to Watch"](#) back in December. What do we get? A booth full of **KAWS** that made us feel like we were hanging out in the **Kidrobot** store five years ago.
5. **David Kordansky** is another terrific L.A. gallery, representing the likes of **Lesley Vance** and **Heather Cook**, but it loses with a lackluster solo show of painting and sculpture by **Ruby Neri**.