In Focus

Your chances of visiting more than 80 international photography galleries in one day? Zip, which is why we love art fairs and make a beeline to the AIPAD Photography Show, the grand-scale emporium of contemporary, modern and 19th-century photography showcasing 89 of the world’s top dealers at the Park Avenue Armory (643 Park Avenue, 212.616.3930, April 16 thru 19). Amble past museum-ready pictures, here a signature 1919 Georgia O’Keeffe portrait by Alfred Stieglitz, there a freshly discovered trove of Margaret Bourke-White’s contact prints of Depression-era burlesque dancers. Then take in the show’s ripped-from-the-headlines highlight, photographs by contemporary Cuban artists, many never seen before in the U.S.

Cuba Libre

Talk about fast work. Just four months after the seismic shift in U.S. diplomatic relations with Cuba, we see Cuban art almost everywhere we look (see above). That’s always been the case at Magnan Metz Gallery (521 W. 26 St.,212.244.2344), where Cuban art is the house specialty and politically energized canvasses by Carlos Quintana, Roberto Diago and Rene Francisco headline a curated show by established Cuban artists (thru April 25). Another long-time Cuban art champion, The Bronx Museum of the Arts (1040 Grand Concourse, Bronx, 718.681.6000) greets the thaw with witty, socially charged contemporary works in *Cuba Libre!* (thru June 21), epitomized by Meira Marrero and Jose A. Toirac’s “Looking for Happiness,” side-by-side images of a grizzled Ernest Hemingway nursing a rum and a youthful Fidel Castro swilling a Coke.

Big Show or Colossus on the Hudson

Thinking of tackling Artexpo New York, billed as the world’s largest art trade show and marketplace at Pier 94 (711 12th Ave., April 23-26) We suggest running shoes. Consider: 400-plus artists, galleries and publishers exhibiting work, 133,000 square feet of exhibition space. Call it ArtAerobicsExpo. The juried, one-stop-look-and-shopathon of original work encompasses nearly every media imaginable — paintings, prints, drawings, sculpture, photography, ceramics, lithographs, glass, you get the idea.

Something Old

Nothing puts a gleam in our antiques-loving eye like a huge cache of finely honed silver. You’d have to frequent Hungary’s museums to tally up more Hungarian silver ewers, pitchers and chalices than what’s socked away at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (1000 Fifth Ave., 212.535.7710) following a lavish bequest by an esteemed former U.S. Ambassador to Budapest. *Hungarian Treasure: Silver from the Nicolas M. Salgo Collection* celebrates the goldsmiths’ craftsmanship and the collector’s eye. (April 6 - Oct. 4). Deep dark secret: we deem cat videos pure catnip, enough for us to hightail it to *Life of Cats: Selections from the Hiraki Ukiyo-e Collection* at Japan Society (333 E. 47 St., 212.832.1155, thru June 7). Complementing these classic Edo-period (1615-1865) woodblock prints of feisty felines are enough kitty paintings, drawings and sculptures to make the exhibition, and maybe you, purr.

Winning Bids or Going Once

They may not be formally curated, but we like how auction exhibitions focused on a subject or genre can inform and delight, especially at a small house like Swann Auction Galleries (104 E. 25th St., 212.254.4710). Witness *Ascension:* *A Century of African-American Art* (April 2), bookended by Henry Ossawa Tanner’s poetic “Boy and Sheep Under Tree” (in a family collection since 1883) and prints by Kara Walker and Carrie Mae Weems. You can always grab a paddle and take something home.

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To be added to the Cuban section for the website story:

Want proof that hard times inspire powerful art? Feast on the unsparing photographs in *The Light in Cuban Eyes* at Robert Mann Gallery (525 W. 26 St., 212.989.7600, thru May 23), created during the so-called “special period” of the extreme poverty following the Soviet withdrawal in the early 1990s.

Additional line for Artexpo for website:

And if that isn’t enough visit the [Solo] and Decor pavilions for work by emerging artists and high-style frames.

Fact-checking

AIPAD photography show dates and address from the website

THE AIPAD PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW NEW YORK

APRIL 16-19, 2015

PARK AVENUE ARMORY

643 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10065

Armory phone number:

[Park Avenue Armory: Home](http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCAQFjAA&url=http%253A%252F%252Fwww.armoryonpark.org%252F&ei=a8DkVOWEN43IsATYvYDIAQ&usg=AFQjCNHFv__kgNOQ_GJoaLZ5dPgg7qxp2g&sig2=EBZo4iGZVHI2jqgrUAuTng&bvm=bv.85970519,d.cWc)

www.armoryonpark.org/

643 Park Ave, New York, NY 10065

(212) 616-3930

press release mentioning artists I’ve mentioned

<https://c.ymcdn.com/sites/aipad.site-ym.com/resource/collection/C884E016-55C5-456C-9311-6C0977D09914/Press_Release_AIPAD_1-13-15-FINAL.pdf>

Magnan Metz Gallery

[ARTISTS](http://www.magnanmetz.com/artists) [EXHIBITIONS](http://www.magnanmetz.com/exhibitions) [NEWS](http://www.magnanmetz.com/news) [CONTACT](http://www.magnanmetz.com/contact)

521 West 26th Street, New York, NY 10001

T: 212.244.2344

info came in an interview with Dara Metz of the gallery.

She’s sending me the title of the show when they get it, but they don’t have it yet.

Bronx Museum of the Arts

address and phone from the website:

1040 Grand Concourse

Bronx, New York 10456

T: 718-681-6000

exhibition info:

<http://www.bronxmuseum.org/exhibitions/cuba-libre>

the painting I mentioned:

<http://www.bronxmuseum.org/exhibitions/cuba-libre>

it’s the 6th of the 9 pictured

Artexpo New York

<http://artexponewyork.com>

Pier 94

711 12th Ave (55th Street & the West Side Highway)

New York, NY 10019-5399

Pier 94 offers 133,000 square feet (from the website — the show is just in Pier 94, not 92/94)

http://www.piers9294.com/about/aboutpiers9294/

Hi Terry,

Just at Pier 94. Thanks for checking!

Nicole

contact: Nicole Kasak

nk@kasakmedia.com

What she sent me:

Here is some background information about Artexpo New York, [SOLO] and DÉCOR:

Artexpo New York, the world’s largest fine art trade show and marketplace, takes places April 23-26 at NYC’s Pier 94, along with [SOLO] and DÉCOR. For thirty-seven years and counting, Artexpo has been changing the way people buy and sell art. Artexpo will host 400+ innovative exhibiting artists, galleries and publishers from across the globe, showcasing exciting original artwork, prints, paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, ceramics, giclee, lithographs, glass works and more—all under one roof at Pier 94.

The annual, juried expo brings the biggest publishers, galleries and collectors face-to-face with hundreds of established and emerging artists. Hosting more than 25,000 avid art enthusiasts annually, Artexpo is the largest international gathering of qualified trade buyers—including gallery owners and managers, art dealers, interior designers, architects, corporate art buyers and art & framing retailers. Guests and visitors can look forward to a VIP Opening Night Party, live performance art, cocktail mixers, cutting-edge education seminars highlighting the newest art world trends and many more surprises. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit: [www.artexponewyork.com](http://www.artexponewyork.com/).

Silver at the Met

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

1000 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10028-0198

Phone: 212-535-7710

press release:

http://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-museum/press-room/exhibitions/2015/hungarian-treasure

Cats at Japan Society

from the website: http://www.japansociety.org/page/about/visitor\_information

333 East 47th Street

New York, NY 10017

Phone: (212) 832-1155

Cats info:

<http://www.japansociety.org/page/programs/gallery/life-of-cats>

I also was contacted by Cindy Bokser at Anne Edgar & Associates.

African American art at Swann Galleries

<http://www.swanngalleries.com>

 104 East 25th Street

 New York, NY 10010

 Phone: (212) 254-4710

http://www.swanngalleries.com/departments/African-American-Fine-Art/

 Apr 2   2:30 pm

 Ascension: A Century of African-American Art

 Sale 2378

pertinent info from an email from press contact Rebecca Weiss:

rebeccaw@swanngalleries.com

The sale features important paintings from the early careers of three great American artists: Henry Ossawa Tanner, Norman Lewis and Barkley L. Hendricks. The first lot in the sale is a beautiful pastoral painting *Boy and Sheep under a Tree*, oil on linen canvas, 1881, one of the finest and earliest Tanner paintings to come to auction in the last 25 years. The painting has been in the collection of a Philadelphia family since 1883 and has been featured in every significant Tanner retrospective thereafter.

Rounding out the sale is very strong selection of fine contemporary prints by important artists such as Faith Ringgold, Hank Willis Thomas and Kara Walker. A highlight of this section is *You Became Playmate to the Patriarch and Their Daughter*, a diptych of chromogenic prints by Carrie Mae Weems from her iconic series *From Here I Saw What Happened and I Cried*.