



Conrad Egyir: "Art Basel Miami 2021: Black Artist You Should Know"

By Kevin L. Clark

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(L-R) Kehinde Wiley, Betye Saar. Photo by Stefanie Keenan/Getty Images for LACMA

Enjoy these talented creatives while having fun under the sun.

Art Basel, the buzzy, well-attended cultural event, in Miami Beach is *here* and active! The art community has descended upon South Beach with bags packed and excited for a week filled with a whirlwind of activity. This year, galleries are no longer required to have a physical space to participate. And with 253 galleries from 36 countries and territories, 43 of which join for the first time, this epicness of Black creativity, including work by **Kara Walker**, [Kehinde Wiley](#), and a host of others, means this list should be a part of your go-to guide this week.

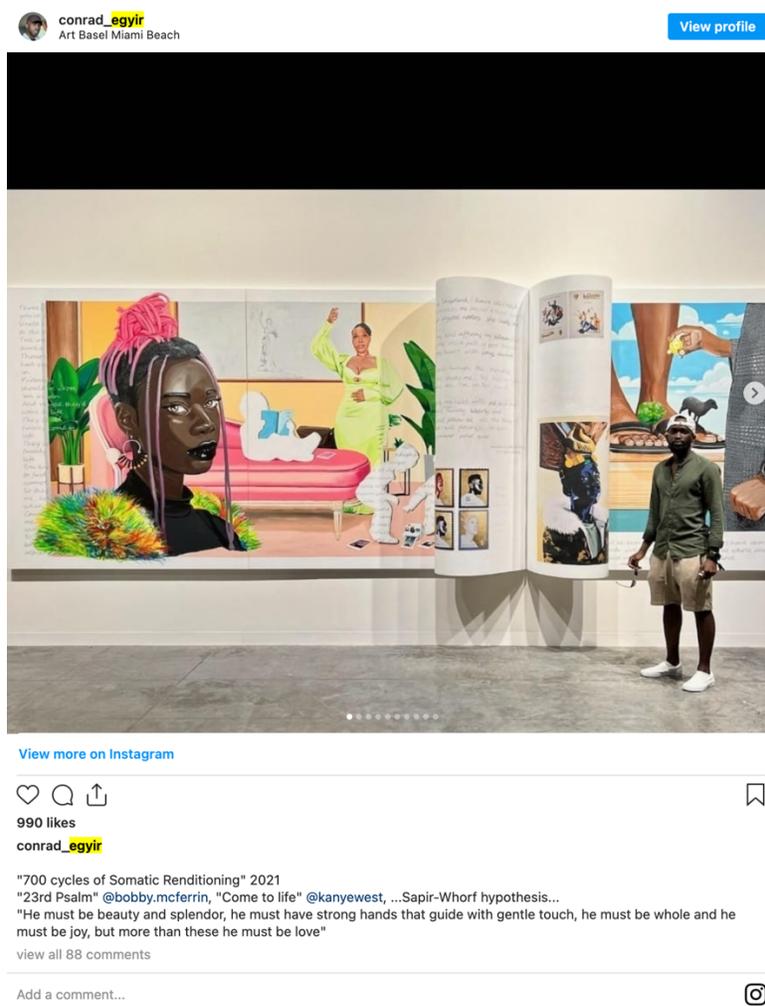
Art Basel's global director **Marc Spiegler** emphasized the importance of diversifying Miami Beach, [telling ARTnews](#). "[Art Basel] said, 'Let's take this hurdle away because there are already enough hurdles anyway.'" COVID precautions at the fair won't restrict anyone from expanding their artistic worldview (there's a mask mandate for everyone). And for every moment that takes place between members of the international art world, the Black artists on this list are ones that you should diversify your bonds for.

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From Dec. 2 through Dec. 6, BET will be on the ground to guide you as art appreciators converge in Miami. With so much going on, this is an opportunity to check out our [official BET x Art Basel Miami 2021 hub](#) and, below, learn more about these five Black Artists to experience during Miami Art Week.

Conrad Egyir | Jessica Silverman Gallery



In **Terrace Martin's** "Griots of the Crenshaw District," the refrain of "I'ma always pull up," resonated with the family aesthetics that imbues his new album, *Drones*. Known for his bold, graphic portraits, Detroit-based **Conrad Egyir** [illustrates his subjects like royalty](#) and mixes iconography from his native Accra, Ghana to deliver a Tyson-esque visual punch of Pop art. Egyir's ["700 Cycles of Somatic Renditioning,"](#) which is only open from Dec. 2 to Dec. 4, is his [most ambitious work to date](#). Shaped like a large-scale tableau with references to folklore artists such as [Faith Ringgold](#) (mixed media sculptor, *If One Can Anyone Can All you Gotta Do Is Try*) and [Charles White](#) (artist, *We Have Been Believers*), this non-linear, evolving composition blends Adinkra symbols into a 20 feet long and 7 feet tall work of art that has already been sold, [according to director HAKKi Serhat Cacekli](#).

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