BASELING HAS OFFICIALLY BECOME A VERB. “TO BASEL” IS TO WADE THROUGH MYRIAD EXHIBITS, EVENTS, POP-UPS AND PARTIES THAT DESCEND UPON MIAMI DECEMBER 5-8. “WE BASELED” REQUIRES NO EXPLANATION. NEED A FEW IDEAS? WE HAVE THEM. NOW, GO FORTH AND BASEL.

By Michelle Payer
Billionaire developer and art collector Jorge M. Pérez introduces his personal art collection “Time for a Change: Art and Social Unrest in the Jorge M. Pérez Collection” in a 28,000-square-foot warehouse. Curated by Jose Roca, 100 works by 80 global artists explore conflict and contradictions of contemporary society.

ICA – INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Among ICA’s newest exhibits shines Sterling Ruby, the American artist’s first comprehensive museum survey. More than 50 works by 80 global artists explore conflict and contradictions of contemporary society. 3625 SW 8th St.

THE CONTEMPORARY AND DIGITAL ART FAIR (CADAF)

CADAF, the international art fair dedicated entirely to digital and new media art, comes to Mana Wynwood for the first time, bringing everything from video and stop-motion art to creative uses of artificial intelligence and virtual reality to the Design District.

ANNUAL DESIGN DISTRICT COMMISSION

Follow pink sisal tassels and hairy fuchsia sloths hanging from trees in Paradise Plaza, Jade Alley and Palm Court to installations from this year’s annual design commission winner, Mexican product and material designer Fernando Laposse. A nod to Mexico’s rich history, natural sisal fibers were produced, cleaned and dyed by Mayan women weavers using centuries-old techniques.

VIRGIL ABLOH SCULPTURE

Artistic director of Louis Vuitton Men’s and founder of the fashion label Off-White, Virgil Abloh presents an irreverent take on some of advertising’s most successful campaigns. Stroll to Jade Alley for his sculpture of a Sunoco beacon positioned as a sinking ship, marking the first time Abloh’s artwork is installed in the Design District.

SCULPTURES & STREET ARTISTS

Visit Markowicz Fine Art for new collections from international sculptures and street artists including iconic wildlife sculptures from world-renowned French sculptor Richard Orlinski, hyper-realistic bronze sculptures of swimmers and divers by Carole Feuerman, signature Bigfoot sculptures from Idan Zareski, and new installments from internationally known street artist Kai’s latest collection. Meet the artists December 5 as the gallery hosts a VIP Party. To RSVP, email danielle@thedanaagency.com.

THE CONTEMPORARY AND DIGITAL ART FAIR (CADAF)

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CONVERSATIONS WITH NATURE:
Brickell City Centre
Exposing the deep connection between humans and the natural world, the Albie Alexander-curated exhibit explores themes of activism, mysticism and meditation through site-specific installations and artwork dedicated to Mother Nature. brickellcitycentre.com

PY1
Step inside an 81-foot-high pyramid equipped with 126 speakers, 444 LED lighting fixtures and 32 laser projectors for a multisensory experience imagined by Cirque du Soleil co-founder Guy Laliberté. Three separate shows combine technology with powerful storytelling in which the audience plays the main role. Immersive experiences include PY1 Nights, where local artists take over the pyramid’s sacred space. PY1.co

MUSEUM OF ART & DESIGN AT MDC
Embellished beds, serene lighting and therapeutic sound vibrations are juxtaposed against exhaustion tactics once used to subjugate slaves and current systems of exploitation, erosive fatigue and 24/7 capitalism in Black Power Naps / Siestas Negras. Artists Navild Acosta and Fannie Sosa present this “energetic repair as a way to reclaim laziness and idleness as power” for those historically deprived of it and invite visitors to “idly contemplate our free time and thus our freedom.” mdcmoad.org

RED DOT AND SPECTRUM MIAMI
Two of Art Week’s longest-running fairs return to Mana Wynwood with both fairs now inside its convention center for the first time. Red Dot Miami presents PASSION as this year’s curatorial theme, while Spectrum Miami presents IGNITE within its upscale and urban curated contemporary art fair. spectrum-miami.com, reddotmiami.com

BE A STREET ART GUIDE
Download the MASA (Murals and Street Art) app for a self-guided tour of Miami’s most notable public art (click “Close to me” for street art in your location), then add your own sightings by registering and uploading pictures to let the world know about your Art Basel discoveries. findmasa.com/app

NORTH MIAMI/UPPER EAST SIDE

LOVE LOST MIAMI: Upper East Side
An antidote to frenzied parties, this is a moving, people-populated exhibit about Miamians’ stories of loss, missed opportunities, betrayal, heartbreak and the personal objects that represent them. The submission deadline has passed, but Aventura readers can still be considered by sending anonymous or named personal stories to lov lost.co/exhibit-submissions. Location: lov lost.co or Instagram @LoveLostMiami

MOCA – MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART
Though her work is included in global museum collections, “Cecilia Vicuña, About to Happen” is the influential Chilean artist’s first major U.S. solo exhibition. It traces her career-long commitment to exploring discarded and displaced materials, peoples and landscapes in a time of global climate change. mocanomi.org
SOUTH BEACH

THE BETSY

The global arts hotel’s 2019 Basel installation is more robust than ever. Curated by co-owner Lesley Goldwasser, nine shows in 20,000 square-feet of gallery space include Iké Udé’s “Sartorial Anarchy Collection,” Pete Turner’s “The Color of Jazz,” Andrew Kaufman’s “A Rare Glimpse into the Life of the Champ” and portrait photographer Michael Halsband. Andy Sweet’s award-winning documentary “The Last Resort” about the lives of Holocaust survivors on Miami Beach in the 1970s and 80s takes center stage in the hotel’s Lobby salon. Attend the hotel’s Art Basel opening with Obama Inaugural poet Richard Blanco, December 6 at 9 pm and daily salons by RSVPing to artsandculture@thebetsyhotel.com. For the complete schedule, visit thebetsyhotel.com.

SEVAN BIÇAKÇI – THE JOURNEY OF THE CRAFTSMAN

One of the world’s foremost master jewelers tells the story of his past at Design Miami and the future at The Betsy Hotel, where a 24K-gold and sterling silver Self-Portrait Cuff features 108 rough diamonds and four carats of fancy black and white diamonds in eight octopus tentacles surrounding a 650-carat pink quartz inversely carved center stone. The masterpiece took more than a year to make and glitters beside a 36”x40” portrait of Biçakçi by Nigerian artist Iké Udé.

PULSE ART FAIR

Inhale fresh ocean air at “Thomas Broadbent’s Rotating Moon,” an open-air installation that creates the illusion of the moon hovering above Miami Beach. Observe the orb’s full 360 degrees, as its dark side is seemingly revealed in 3-D form. Check out PULSE Perspective, a new dual-language series to honor the Latin American art and Art Basel’s only platform dedicated to video art with 20-hour videos by Black & White Gallery.

Indian Beach Park, 4601 Collins Avenue; pulseartfair.com

BOTERO ON LINCOLN ROAD

For the first time, 13 voluptuous Fernando Botero sculptures will greet pedestrians on Lincoln Road’s promenade, thanks to Gary Nader Art Centre. Botero’s famous sculptures have traveled from Paris’ Champs-Élysées to Tokyo’s Yebisu Garden, Berlin’s Lustgarten and NYC’s Park Avenue before landing in what’s known as Miami’s living room.