

Galerie

6 Standout Booths at Paris+ par Art Basel

Returning to the City of Light for its second edition, Paris+ par Art Basel featured 154 leading galleries

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Wandering the aisles of the T-shaped Grand Palais Éphémère, *Galerie* was on the lookout for the best booth presentations at 2023 edition of the stellar fair and found a fascinating mix of artists and artworks. Ranging from one-person exhibitions by such celebrated self-taught artists as Lonnie Holley at BLUM and Anna Zemakova at christian berst art brut and solo show presentations of lesser-known discoveries like Roberto Gil de Montes at Mendes Wood and Francis Upritchard at Anton Kern Gallery to a clever pairing of Rirkrit Tiravanija and Vivien Zhang at Pilar Corrias and an engaging group exhibition of artists responding to the masterworks of Mark Rothko, these are our favorite booths at the fair.



Installation view of Anna Zemakova at christian berst art brut.

PHOTO: THOMAS BEHURET; COURTESY CHRISTIAN BERST ART BRUT

1. Anna Zemánková at christian berst art brut

A critically acclaimed artist in the 2013 Venice Biennale, where 18 of her works on paper were on view, Anna Zemánková is one of the most famous European “art brut” painters—having had numerous gallery solo shows and museum presentations around the world. A former dentist who painted landscapes in her spare time, the Czech artist gave up painting to raise her children, but was later encouraged by her sons to return to painting as a form of art therapy to fight depression brought on from diabetes and the amputation of her legs. Exhibiting while still alive, her visionary work was acquired by Jean Dubuffet for his celebrated Collection de l’Art Brut Lausanne in 1964, which gave her instant recognition.

At the fair, christian berst art brut has a sensational selection of abstract still lifes of plant-inspired paintings on paper from the 1960s and 1970s. Treasured works that the family is finally releasing from its trust, her large pastels with textile collage, embossing, watercolor, ink and paper cutouts present a unique vision of garden life, wonderfully filtered through a surreal view of the world that she inhabited. Presenting images of nature that could only exist in the mind of a fantasist, she drew and painted compulsively until passing at age 77 in 1986, but her art lives on so that we can share the extraordinary beauty that she saw in her environment, even in the most difficult of times.