Galerie

8 Buzzworthy Artists to Watch from Felix LA

From Carmen D'Apollonio's sensuous ceramic lamps to Victor Ubah's Cubiststyle portraiture, these artists are sure to be talked about long after the hip poolside fair has closed

> BY PAUL LASTER FEBRUARY 22, 2022

When an art fair takes place around a swimming pool painted by David Hockney, it's bound to make a splash, and that is exactly what Felix LA has done this past week. On view from February 17–20, 2022, the third international edition of the fun, beloved fair presented artwork in a variety of media at 60 galleries from around the world in the pool cabanas of The Hollywood Roosevelt hotel and in the more expansive rooms on the 11th and 12th floors of hotel above.

Founded in 2019 by art collector Dean Valentine and gallerist brothers Al Morán and Mills Morán with the goal of creating a fair experience that prioritizes connoisseurship, collaboration, and community among collectors, dealers, and artists, Felix LA has been a hit from the start.

"L.A. has always been rich with artists, but now it's becoming rich with galleries, very mature galleries," Mills Morán told Galerie on opening day. "We wanted a fair that could represent the city's art scene, which continues to grow. When Frieze decided to launch an L.A. edition, we felt that there had to be a counterbalance, where more galleries could participate—plus, getting people to come to California in the middle of winter is a very easy sell." Here, Galerie has assembled eight works by artists that generated the most buzz. From ceramic lamps with legs to quilts that fly like flags, this is the art that will have people talking long after the fair is over.



Chris Hood, Supercollider, 2021. PHOTO: CHARLES BENTON. COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND LYLES & KING, NEW YORK

2. Chris Hood at Lyles & King

Mixing archetypes with found imagery on expressive surfaces, Chris Hood makes dreamlike paintings with a spark of the surreal. Layering the vernacular with the personal, the Atlanta born, L.A.-based artist constructs colorful, enigmatic canvases with visually collaged elements in a painterly realm. Poetic yet pop, people and landscapes are fantastically fused in transitional spaces, which strangely seems both fictional and familiar.