



## *STREET BASEL*

In this time of economic uncertainty, when the cultural profile of graffiti art is at an unprecedented level, how to sell art that is inherently free is a question still facing the art world. This year's Art Basel fair will see three ancillary events focused on graffiti art: the beginning of an ongoing graffiti-art museum produced by New York gallerist **Jeffrey Deitch** along with **Goldman Properties** in the Wynwood District that will include works by Obama-brander Shepard Fairey, Os Gêmeos from Brazil, pioneer style-master Futura and a collaboration between Brooklyn-based street artists Swoon and David Ellis; a major public mural at the **Miami Art Museum** produced by Fairey in conjunction with Country Club galleries

and MAM; and what may prove to be one of the swellest parties in town, **Graffiti Gone Global**, a continent-spanning survey of recent tendencies in graffiti art presented by **SushiSamba** at Midtown Miami (next to their new restaurant) that will feature the likes of Lady Pink, Aiko Nakagawa, Cycle and Doze Green.

It's hard to say what effect any of this may have on the art market proper, but between real estate developers trying to enliven their properties, the interests of art institutions looking for a bit of populist appeal and local businesses reaching out to their communities, the fact remains that graffiti sure is good at drawing a crowd.

—Carlo McCormick