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Art Basel Miami Beach | In Search of Middle America

By Maura Egan
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From left: "Mark," 2007 (Jacob Dyrenforth); "Storage Headboard (after John G. Shea)," (2005), (Simparch)

The mad scramble to White Columns at the NADA art fair looked like a clearance sale. The red "sold" dots lining the gallery's walls for the limited-edition prints by Wade Guyton and Ari Marcopoulos (\$150 each) suggested that even frugal shoppers were willing to whip out the credit card if the price was right.

NADA, sponsored by Banana Republic this year, has lost some of its founding members like Zach Feuer and WallSpace, who've graduated to the main art fair at the city's convention center. But newcomers like New York's Hudson Franklin Gallery and Cincinnati's Country Club are welcome additions. The Ohio-based gallery champions hipster street artists like Barry McGee, Cheryl Dunn and Jacob Dyrenforth as well as the design collective Simparch, which also built the stage on the NADA grounds for various performances throughout the week. Also hailing from America's heartland is Western Exhibitions. The Chicago gallery has brought Miller and Shellabarger, a curious set of bearded twins who are crocheting themselves together during the week. Their motto, "Always together, always in public," has attracted lots of fans and even local TV crews.

All photos courtesy of Country Club gallery.