

Art Fairs

## Collectors Were Decisive at the VIP Opening of the Armory Show, With Early Six-Figure Sales and a Focus on Latinx Art

Here's what sold on the VIP preview day of The Armory Show.

Eileen Kinsella, September 9, 2022



The Armory Show 2021. Photograph by Casey Kelbaugh.

Just over a year ago, thousands of New Yorkers waited in line outside the sprawling Jacob Javits Convention Center to get vaccinated. In a sign of just how much the world has changed since then, at the opening of the Armory Show at the same venue yesterday, the nurses in white coats and camo-clad National Guard members had been exchanged for iPad wielding art fair assistants, interested in checking VIP passes rather than vaccination cards.



Jorge Tacla, *Breaking News 2*, (2022). Image courtesy the artist and Cristin Tierney.

Also new were additions to the fair's curated sections. Joining "Solo" and "Presents" (for galleries that are less than a decade old), were "Platform" and "Focus," which stood out for the range of artists and works showcased. The "Platform" section, which was curated by Tobias Ostrander and titled "Monumental Change," examined how recent revisionist practices, including with respect to major public monuments, are influencing artists' engagement with sculptural form.

## CRISTIN TIERNEY

Meanwhile “Focus,” curated by Carla Acevedo-Yates and titled “Landscape Undone,” emphasized Latinx artists, and works “that examine the intersectionality of issues surrounding the environment, focusing on personal and political climates as they interact with race, gender, and power.” Among them, New York gallerist Cristin Tierney presented a solo booth of work by Chilean-born artist Jorge Tacla, who was one of the first artists she welcomed into her gallery roster after establishing it in 2010.

Tierney was delighted to present Tacla at the fair in this context. “He’s from Santiago and has been in New York for many years and lived this back-and-forth existence like many artists of Latin descent,” she said, evoking the various political situations and social stresses that entails. By the end of the first VIP preview day, sales included *Breaking News 2* (2022) for \$50,000.