

ARTS

Top 10 Contemporary Galleries in Austin in 2015

For newcomers to Austin's visual arts scene, here are 10 galleries that upped their game in 2015

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Big Medium

For the droves of newcomers looking for entry to the best art in the city, here are 10 good places to start (in alphabetical order):

- 1) **BIG MEDIUM**'s importance to the community cannot be overstated. If the East Austin Studio Tours were the only thing this art organization produced, it'd still be worthy of this list.
- 2) **CO-LAB PROJECTS** continues to raise the bar. Whether working with the initiates in Summerscool or celebrated artists like Angelbert Metoyer, the exhibits were stellar.

3) CAMIBAart, FLATBED PRESS, GALLERY SHOAL CREEK, PHOTO MÉTHODE, and anyone else at 2832 E. MLK. Increased density, increased gravity.

4) grayDUCK GALLERY is taking bold moves away from an expired credo of exhibiting art that anyone can afford, to that priced at a level that can support an artist. The quality has followed suit.

5) LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY has a long history of bringing acclaimed artists to the city that few other galleries in town have the resources to court.

6) MASS GALLERY's worth is half due to its exhibitions and half to the contributions the collective's individual members make to the scene.

7) MUSEUM OF HUMAN ACHIEVEMENT is still doing its thing: superb and wildly varied, irreverent programming.

8) PUMP PROJECT continues to claim studio refugees from relentless gentrification. That buzzing inertia is matched only by its exhibitions.

9) testsite bridged the museum and gallery scenes this year by handing over curation to elites from both the Contemporary Austin and the Blanton Museum of Art.

10) WOMEN & THEIR WORK is a constant reminder and showcase of art that is still greatly marginalized by a supposedly enlightened sector.

2015 ARTS & CULTURE TOP 10S

Top 10 (+1) Theatre Riches of 2015

Wild theatrical energy and masterful performances were the hallmarks of outstanding theatre in 2015

Top 10 Dance/Classical Music Treasures of 2015

Leaving deep impressions from 2015's dance and classical music works were the unexpected elements, like screen doors, trees, and car horns

Top 10 Arts-Related Program Activities of 2015

The most memorable art of 2015 carved strange and brilliant new spaces out of familiar ones

Top Nine Big-Bang Dance Concerts of 2015

Each of the top dance performances of 2015 created a universe of its own

Top 10 Theatre Performances of 2015

The Austin stage actors who gave the most impressive performances in 2015 just made it look so damned easy

One for the Books

Our favorite reads of 2015

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