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The 10 Most Extraordinary Artworks at Art Basel Unlimited 2017

Here are the standout pieces in this year's edition of the gargantuan art exhibition, curated once again by Gianni Jetzer.

Andrew Goldstein & Julia Halperin, June 13, 2017

With its colossal artworks, gleaming astonishments, and elegantly dressed dealers guarding darkened grottos of digital delight (i.e. screening rooms), Art Basel's Unlimited section resembles nothing so much as Aladdin's Cave of Wonder, where treasures pile upon treasures to overwhelming effect. This year, artnet News' Julia Halperin and Andrew Goldstein explored the massive trove, seeking out the artistic lamps that, when inspected, yield the greatest payoffs.

STAN VANDERBEEK Movie Mural (1965–1968) The Box

Stan VanDerBeek is an artist who hasn't quite gotten his due, and his room-size multimedia installation at Unlimited serves as an important reminder of just how much he did first. The US artist—a pioneer of what would later be called "expanded cinema" began using computers to make art in 1965. He is a precursor to any of the many contemporary artists who create installations by projecting a mash-up of film excerpts, original footage, advertisements, and photographs onto multiple screens. (VanDerBeek started doing it in 1958.) He also has a hand in performance art history: Movie Murals like this one served as backdrops for performances by Merce Cunningham and Carolee Schneemann.



