

FORT GANSEVOORT

Los Feliz Ledger

[Eastside Eye] There's Art after L.A.'s Art Week

By Kathy McDonald

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Adam D. Miller of The Pit Gallery. Photo by Kathy McDonald.

There was too much art and too little time to see it all in mid-February when the Frieze Art Fair occupied a parking lot and the New York backlot at Paramount Pictures Studios.

Local galleries presented a slew of new exhibitions to take advantage of visiting curators and collectors including The Pit from Glendale which filled a coveted booth next to James Turrell's luminous light sculptures, part of Kayne Griffin Corcoran's electrifying presentation.

"This is a really big thing for us as it introduces us to a whole other level of collectors and curators," said Adam D. Miller, owner and director of The Pit gallery.

Other standouts ranged from LA Louver's presentation of Alison Saar's mixed media sculptures to a mini-retrospective of Sister Mary Corita Kent's bold pop art graphic prints displayed by the Kauffmann Repetto gallery of New York City and Milan.

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Still ongoing is a fresh season of art at area galleries. In East Hollywood, close to the blue Scientology tower, the Fort Gansevoort gallery (4859 Fountain Ave.), opened in December in a carefully restored Art Deco building.

Now through March 28th, painter Zoya Cherkassky's exhibition *Soviet Childhood*, investigates her youth and teenage years in the Soviet Union, presenting a series of paintings and drawings that blend the pictorial traditions of Soviet Realism and Modernism. Her style is influenced by Soviet-era political paintings, her own memory and the collective memory and feedback from her social media followers.

"It's not the dreary Soviet Union," she said, which mixes texture, color and vibrant patterns to capture the bygone era.

Downtown L.A.'s Art District's Hauser & Wirth (901 E. 3rd St.) opened three shows to coincide with the Frieze happenings. Lucio Fontana. *Walking the Space: Spatial Environments, 1948 – 1968* (now through April 12) reconstructs the influential Italian artist's groundbreaking *Ambienti spaziali* (Spatial Environments). His neon-lit rooms, his way of drawing the cosmos, are meant to be experienced first-hand. His advocacy for the natural environment was ahead of its time and his profound messages remain timely.

[CORRECTION: The print version of this article gave included an incorrect address for Fort Gansevoort gallery. We regret the error.]