

Market

Unexpected Artworks Dominate This Year's Outsider Art Fair

The genre has been growing, for good reason.

Sarah Cascone, January 22, 2016

(excerpts)



Daniel Swanigan Snow, *Totem III* (2010). Photo: courtesy Cathouse FUNeral.

Getting a jump on the 2016 art fair season is the Outsider Art Fair, on view this weekend in its new home at the Metropolitan Pavilion on West 18th Street. The 59 exhibitors have brought a wide range of material, proving that the art world's so-called "outsiders" always have something unique to offer.

"We always do our best to have a mix of the classic masters of the field together with new discoveries," fair owner Andrew Edlin told artnet News at the VIP preview on Thursday afternoon. He was already doing brisk business at his own booth for Andrew Edlin Gallery, selling one large Henry Darger drawing before the fair had even begun welcoming visitors.

At Brooklyn's Cathouse FUNeral, gallerist and filmmaker David Dixon is showing work

by Daniel Swanigan Snow, who he met when he cast him a recent film. After a career in B movies, at the age of 54, Snow began creating eclectic assemblage works, gathering random materials from the streets of Brooklyn and Long Island. The works, housed in a particularly small booth, incorporate everything from a pizza box to a Barbie doll.

While artists such as Snow and Payne don't match the traditional "outsider" image of reclusive geniuses, they are both clearly working in the margins of the contemporary art world, further demonstrating the growth of the genre.

The Outsider Art Fair is on view at the Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street, New York, January 21–24.