

## A giant Bigfoot, a mini laundromat and a crazy rooftop: A hipper Texas Contemporary Art Fair has it all

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By Tyler Rudick



After three years of duking it out with the Houston Fine Art Fair for a slice of the local collectors' market, [Texas Contemporary Art Fair](#) appears to be settling into its own role as the hipper cousin to the HFAC's respected stable of high-end international galleries.

Large inflatable sculptures and a homemade mini-laundromat by the Los Angeles' [Clayton Brothers](#) greet guests as they enter Hall A of the George R. Brown, setting the stage for a generally light-hearted tone throughout the fair's public spaces. In the main central aisle, a giant stuffed Bigfoot by Tara Tucker holds court alongside a furniture set covered in live plants by Hannah Chalew of New Orleans. Texas Contemporary's cadre of 70 galleries — including 13 from Houston (compared to eight at the HFAC) — seem to veer more towards canvas work in this year's fair.

San Francisco's Catharine Clark Gallery features bold new paintings by [Titus Kaphar](#), who reworks images and iconography from 19th-century America. The Rena Bransten Gallery, also from the Bay Area, has a compelling 2013 work by [Hung Liu](#) while Freight + Volume from New York highlights two fresh canvases by Houston's Kenneth Dorn.

Be sure to visit the [West Collection](#) from Pennsylvania — which has turned its booth into a quasi-rooftop deck filled with art by Philadelphia artists — as well as the [Blaffer Art Museum's](#) selection of impressively-crafted design items by students at the University of Houston, many of which are for sale.