

GAGOSIAN GALLERY



June 13, 2013

BASQUIAT @GAGOSIAN HK

Thanks once again to EC's art expert, Molly Lukins Burke, who visited the Basquiat exhibition at the Gagosian. Over to you, Molly:

Hong Kong continues on its roll of firsts in the art world! It started at the end of last year with the [Hong Kong Museum of Art](#) holding the largest Andy Warhol exhibition ever to come to Asia. Next came the coveted prize of hosting the world's premier international art show, [Art Basel](#), for the first time in the fair's 43-year history.

And now we have the first exhibition of paintings by famed Neo-expressionist, Haitian-American artist, Jean-Michel Basquiat, who exploded onto the contemporary art scene in the 1980s. The [Gagosian Gallery](#) is currently showing fifteen paintings by Basquiat that reflect his interest in creating works of art that are both complex and simple at the same time. His colorful compositions powerfully express his critical opinions on race and society in the transformative 1980s in America.

Even twenty-five years after his untimely death at age 27, Basquiat continues to be very relevant. His signature style of using both text and imagery together to express his views on life remains persuasive and important.

Just one month ago at the Christie's Post War and Contemporary Art sale in New York, [Basquiat's Dustheads \(1982\)](#) broke a world auction record for the artist, selling for \$48.8 million USD. Basquiat was one of 12 contemporary artists whose works were sold at the Christie's auction, which brought in \$495 million, the highest sales figure at any art auction.

Jean-Michel Basquiat will run at the Gagosian Gallery until August 10, 2013. 7/F Pedder Building, 12 Pedder Street, Central

About Molly Lukins Burke

Molly brings her love of the artistic and the eclectic to Hong Kong from New York City, where she was born and raised. On a professional level, Molly has a Master's in Art History and has worked at auction houses (Sotheby's and Christie's) and art galleries in New York. Before moving to Hong Kong in 2012, Molly was working on the team drafting the Catalogue Raisonné for Jasper Johns, one of America's most celebrated artists. Personally, Molly is thrilled to have landed in Asia's cultural capital with her husband and two children, and is excited to explore all that Hong Kong has to offer in local and international art.

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JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT

Self Portrait, 1984

Acrylic and oilstick on paper mounted on canvas

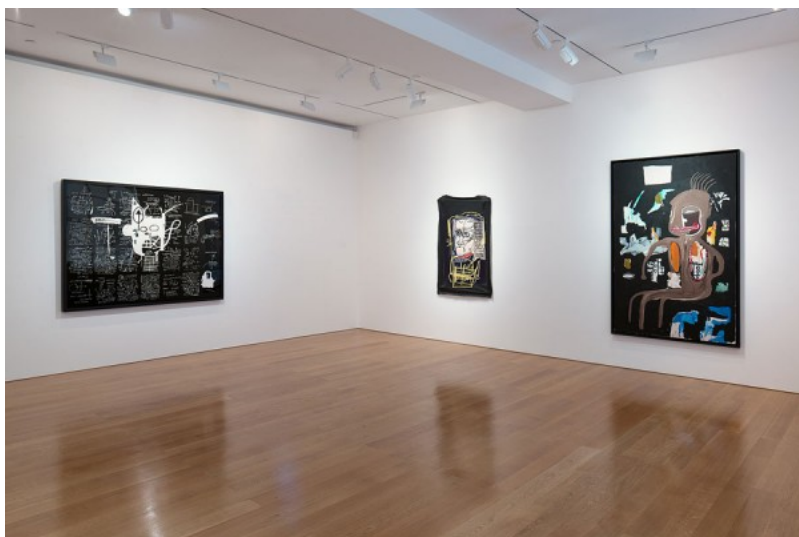
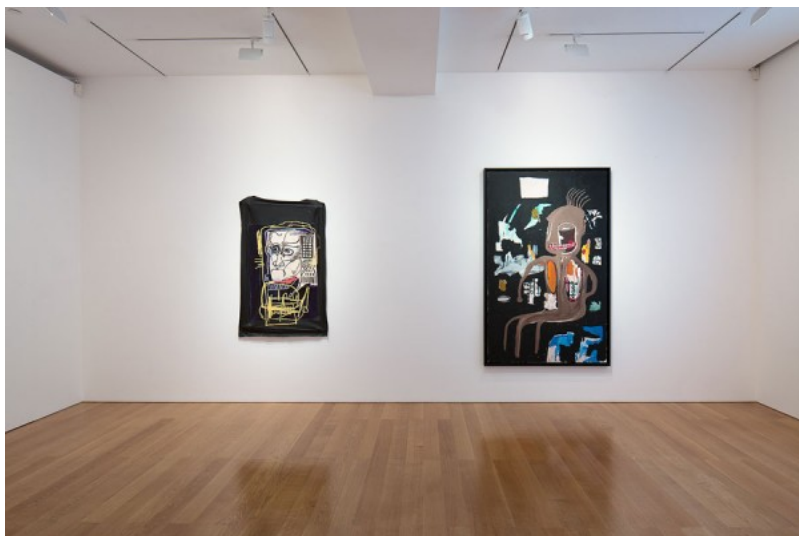
38 7/8 x 28 inches (98.7 x 71.1 cm)

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Installation view of exhibition at the Gagosian.
Images via the [Gagosian](#)

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