

Chicago

12 Incredible Works of Art Bought By Chicago Museums in 2013

Chicago museums bought thousands of pieces of art this year, here are 12 of the most notable.

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Chicago's art museums had a big year, producing everything from sweeping fashion exhibits to the return of hometown heroes such as Theaster Gates. Behind closed doors, museums also added thousands of pieces of art to their collections and undoubtedly paid dearly for them. (Museums do not disclose what they spend and the sellers conspire to keep prices a secret). Here are twelve works that garnered the most buzz:



Sanford Biggers, *Quilt #24 and Cumulous (large)*, 2013

Acquired by the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago was a stop on the Underground Railroad for former slaves seeking freedom. Quilt patterns from that era (so the legend goes) communicated messages, such as route directions or dangers, to the clandestine travellers. Contemporary artist Sanford Biggers paints his own messages upon 19th century heirloom quilts. This one hung in the storefront window display of Monique Meloche Gallery in the summer of 2013, along with the large puffy cloud signage. The museum acquired both artworks.

<http://www.chicagomag.com/arts-culture/December-2013/What-Chicago-Museums-Bought-This-Year/index.php?cp=1&si=0#galleryanc>