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### Art Basel Miami Kick-off

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Art Basel Miami kicked off yesterday with a series of private parties and events. **MOCA Miami** opened up with a party hosted by Vanity Fair, Galerie **Emmanuel Perrotin** hosted another large fete at their Miami space and the Viceroy Hotel launched their inaugural "**Art Viceroy**" curated by Renee Vara and others.

It was certainly an interesting way to start the week and it is not completely clear yet as to whether the art market has turned positive for the galleries here in Miami. Perrotin certainly scaled back from the lavish launch party in 2008. Gone were the never ending trays of hors d'oeuvres, the flowing bar (they ran out early) and the massive installations of large work. This year had a larger number of smaller works from his stable of artists including new furniture by Pharrell Williams, a small KAWS chum, Herman Bas, Jose Levy and more. Things must be getting tighter as the gallery had a large print rack out with prints from Murakami on display...and even a mocked up bedroom on display with walls adorned with framed prints. No marching band this year but it was still a lively way to open the group show and certainly a good party. More info on Art Viceroy and pictures after the jump.

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