The 22nd edition of miart opened to VIPs today at Milan’s Fiera Milano. This year, the first under the artistic direction of Alessandro Rabottini, sees 175 galleries from 14 countries—up 19 exhibitors from last year. The program includes several international newcomers such as Marianne Boesky Gallery, Gladstone Gallery, 47 Canal, and Stuart Shave/Modern Art, adding to the fair’s growing prestige. Below, we highlight the eight strongest presentations across this year’s fair.

Fernanda Gomes
_Untitled, 2017_
Alison Jacques Gallery
Alison Jacques Gallery’s booth is part of the fair’s new section, Generations, which replaces the former THENnow section and is organized by independent curators Nicola Lees and Douglas Fogle. The section combines eight pairs of artists of different generations, though not necessarily in a straightforward pairing of modern and contemporary. Alison Jacques Gallery’s booth, among the more subdued and elegant stands in the section, features works by the Brazilian artist Fernanda Gomes and the American pioneer of fiber art Sheila Hicks.

The booth includes monochrome works that border on painting and sculpture. Both artists share a concerted attention to raw materials: Gomes with the wood or paper in her modernist sculptures and paintings, and Hicks with her threads of linen fiber. Unlike Hicks’s usual woven threads, however, these latest works were made by simply wrapping the thread around the canvass.