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Art Dubai round-up

Recently we wondered what effect the credit crunch might have on Art Dubai. Here's how things panned out [Discuss this article](#)



Time Out emitted a collective sigh of relief as the local parts of the region's most recent threepronged art attack – Art Dubai and Al Bastakiya Art Fair, drew to a close last week (Sharjah Biennial continues until mid-May). Despite concerns over the effect of the global economic downturn on one of the world's fastest-growing international art fairs, Art Dubai seemed to successfully prove that there is life in the old art scene yet.

Opening night saw what felt like the whole of the international art contingent bear down on the Madinat venue's effusive display that could have come with the strapline, 'What credit crunch?' – even as some of the foreign and local gallerists *Time Out* spoke to were slightly nervous about what to expect, in terms of sales. (One first-time New York gallery revealed that while it had seriously considered pulling out, 'We had committed and really thought we ought to see it through. Time,' our source revealed with a shrug, 'will tell if that was the right decision.')

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Fast-forward a few days and sales were steady, if not quite up there with last year, according to our spies. 'We haven't had the big sales that we'd had by this time last year,' one local gallery owner revealed, 'but the small

