



## 5 Names You'll Know after the Venice Biennale

ARTSY EDITORIAL  
BY JULIE BAUMGARDNER  
MAY 7TH, 2015 1:19 PM



Work by Newell Harry; The Propeller Group. Photos by Alex John Beck for Artsy.

Certainly one reason many flock to the Venice Biennale is to discover new talent. Sure, the national pavilions beam with the stars of today, and those that receive such an honor are secured a place within art (and often market) history. But what about the young'ns, the underdogs, and the unexpected? When Okwui Enwezor took the curator's torch for this year's edition, the swanky-but-serious Nigerian stoked the fires in a welcome way, by including a much more demographically diverse range of practitioners. Enwezor's headlining exhibition, "All the World's Futures," includes heavy doses of artists from Africa, a continent that has fecund and versatile contemporary practices, and which is often largely overlooked—or worse, exoticized—in the West. But a spotlight on Enwezor's continental turf isn't the show's only compelling attribute. Rather, within moments of stepping into the Arsenale, it becomes apparent that this show is a triumph, more broadly, of the bold-faced and the yet-to-be-discovered. Below, find five artists that make an indelible impact.



Work by Maja Bajevic; Cao Fei. Photos by Alex John Beck for Artsy.

And since there were many more than five artists with stand-out inclusions, be sure to sit with the works by Samson Kambalu, Mika Rottenberg, Cao Fei, Karo Akpokiere, Nidhal Chamekh, and Maja Bajevic.

—Julie Baumgardner