

ABOUT TOWN



Art for sale

Josh Spero's best bets for Frieze week, the busiest in the capital's creativity calendar



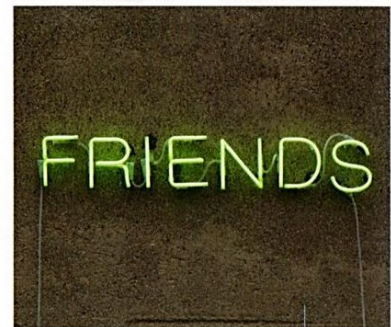
SWING LOW £1.75M

RED AND BLUE ON BLACK AND WHITE (1969) BY ALEXANDER CALDER

WHY BUY If you're a contrary person, like me, you'll often argue that black is white or that the talented one in *Destiny's Child* was Michelle. But it took a special kind of contrarian to argue that sculpture isn't a fixed object but an ever-shifting wonder. That's what Alexander Calder did, first in his mobiles (twirling sculptures that hung from the ceiling), then in what he called his stabiles, like this one. Instead of providing a definite answer, he gives us a glorious range of possibilities. With each twist of the breeze, the sculpture – a work of precarious physics as much as of art – comes to life, different every time.

WHEN 15–19 October.

WHERE Mayoral Galeria d'Art at PAD London, Berkeley Square, W1 (pad-fairs.com).



GREEN LIGHT £43,000

WORK NO. 1677 (2013) BY MARTIN CREED

WHY BUY Creed never made a dead shark or a dirty bed into art, but his Turner Prize-winning work does include a light going on and off, a piece of Blu-Tack and a scrunched-up sheet of paper. A recent retrospective highlighted both how he can make you laugh and the anxiety underlying his work, just as here. Neon signs are supposed to be warm and inviting; this one is solitary and a bit sad in its diffident green. It says 'FRIENDS', yet it sits alone. This suits Creed's paradox – producing works of isolation for crowds to adore.

WHEN 15–18 October.

WHERE Galerie Rüdiger Schöttle at Frieze London, Regent's Park, NW1 (friezelondon.com).



POINT TAKEN £1.6M

METTERE AL MONDO IL MONDO A ROMA NELLA PRIMAVERA DELL'ANNO MILLENOVECENTOSETTANTOTTO PENSANDO A TUTTO TONDO (1978) BY ALIGHIERO BOETTI

WHY BUY Given that I used up almost all my column on the title, I'm going to get to the point. Which is, funnily enough, what Boetti does here: this work, on 12 huge panels (100cm by 72cm), is made in biro. As part of the Arte Povera (Poor Art) movement, Boetti believed in using the cheapest materials and also thought you could make art just as you play a game,

so he assigned a rule on how his assistants should use the biro for each panel. And since this is meant to be Arte Povera, you can't fail to smile at the price this piece is selling for.

WHEN 15–19 October.

WHERE Ben Brown Fine Arts at Frieze Masters, Regent's Park, NW1 (friezemasters.com).