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## Aqua Art Miami celebrates 14th edition with strongest sales and attendance to date

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Aqua Art Miami also hosted a selection of curated special projects and enchanting performance pieces throughout its duration:

- Steven Cohen and Curtis Cox, the longtime lighting and production directors for the biggest names in music, made their artistic debut as a collaborative presentation known as The Parsons Close Project, which featured Cohen's paintings and assembles, and Cox's ceramics and jewelry.
- Military veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) shared their stories with New York-based artist Susan J. Barron, who honored them through her large-scale mixed-media portraits in *Depicting the Invisible: A Portrait Series of Veterans Suffering from PTSD*, presented by HG Contemporary. Barron's work shines a spotlight on thirteen American veterans who have survived the trauma of war or terrorism. The artist's oversized black-and-white photographic portraits are painted with the subjects' stories, in their own words.
- Kevin Berlin hosted a discussion on the Worldwide Premiere of *HOPE DIES LAST 2 - New Works of the Russian Ballet*. Berlin's paintings focus on the interior and secret lives of ballet dancers – depicting their hidden thoughts in sensual, mostly black and white paintings, sculpture, and works on paper.
- A book signing and cocktail reception was held with mixed-media artist Stephen Wilson, best known for his artistic explorations in embroidery work, supplemented with cutting-edge modern technologies, like laser cutting and 3D printing. High fashion influences are prevalent in his work, expressed through his use of designer-branded packaging and luxury fabrics including Hermès silk, Chanel wool, and limited-edition Gucci boxes. The artist signed copies of his new book, *Stephen Wilson: Luscious Threads*, available from Scala Arts and Heritage Publishers.