

ART

Best of the Edinburgh Art Festival

Edinburgh isn't all about the theatrical; Louisa Buck selects the highlights from this year's Art Festival



BY LOUISA BUCK
AUGUST 08, 2014 07:00

www.telegraph.co.uk, 8 August 2014

The Telegraph LUXURY

The Edinburgh Festival may be best known for matters theatrical but for the last decade the city has also hosted a simultaneous festival devoted to all things visual. This year's August-long Edinburgh Art Festival is larger than ever and seems almost as daunting as its theatrical cousin, featuring more than 100 artists showing in 40 exhibitions and events throughout the city's museums, galleries and institutions – along with a dense scattering of pop-ups and special commissions. Here are some pointers to help plot a way through...



Katie Paterson, Fossil Necklace, 2013

[Enlarge](#)

GENERATION: There is no doubt that the last quarter century has seen an explosion of Scottish and Scottish-based talent, including six Turner Prize winners and 17 nominees, as this mega-exhibition celebrating 25 years of Scottish contemporary art from the Borders to Orkney proves. Highlights of GENERATION in Edinburgh include the solo show devoted to the funky, pop-tastic work of Jim Lambie at the Fruitmarket Gallery, including his trippy hallucinogenic “Zobop” disco floor, made by tracing the contours of an entire room in concentric lines of multicoloured duct tape. Christine Borland's darkly thought-provoking sculptural installation is based on eyewitness descriptions of the Nazi doctor Josef Mengele by Auschwitz survivors, while Karla Black's draped installation of cellophane and tissues plays with the sublime skies of old master paintings. Both Borland and Black shine through the rather unwieldy GENERATION survey show which spreads across the Scottish National Gallery and the National Gallery of Modern Art.

Also try to catch both shows of Katie Paterson, a young Glasgow-born artist now based in Berlin. Her solo exhibition of mind-boggling new work at Ingleby Gallery includes melted meteorites and her Fossil Necklace, which spans the entire history of our planet in a single string of beads. A little way outside Edinburgh at Jupiter Artland she is also showing Earth-Moon-Earth, a complex and magical piece which captures a transmission of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata that had been reflected from the surface of the moon, converted into Morse code and now uncannily emanates from a self-playing grand piano.