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ART NEWS HOME | COLUMNS

ART FAIRS & EVENTS

A Roundup of Sales from FIAC's High-Octane Opener



llya Chichkan's portrait of a young woman with a Karl Marxian beard sold for €8,000 (\$11,100) at the Marat Guelman booth.

By ARTINFO France

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Photo by Nicolai Hartvic

Barry X Ball's "Sleeping Hermaphrodite," 2008-2010 PARIS- As Judd Tully reported, sales at the fair are proceeding at a fast clip, leading some dealers to call last week's successful Frieze fair comparatively slow. Here is a list of some sales that were made on the first day:

[text omitted]

One of the most eagerly anticipated works at FIAC is Barry X Ball's "Sleeping Hermaphrodite." Ball worked closely with Louvre Museum experts to create this work, which was modeled on the Louvre's second-century A.D. marble statue of the same name. The Louvre statue was discovered in Rome in 1608 and placed on a marble couch by Italian sculptor Bernini in 1619. Barry X Ball's hermaphrodite at the Salon 94 stand, however, is black, made from a two-and-a-half-ton block of marble, and created specifically for FIAC. Fair organizers actually had to reinforce the floor of the Cour Carrée in order to accommodate the incredibly heavy piece. Barry X Ball told ARTINFO France that he sought to "re-transcribe with sincerity all the mystery of its sexuality." The sculpture sold for €450,000 (\$623,000).