

# ART+AUCTION

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## MOVERS+SHAKERS

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### Outside In

An art world insider has taken charge of the **Outsider Art Fair**. Through his newly formed company, **Wide Open Arts**, contemporary dealer **Andrew Edlin** purchased the 21-year-old event from founder and veteran fair organizer **Sanford Smith** in September. The 2013 edition will take place January 31 through February 3 at the former Dia Center for the Arts in Chelsea. (For the last five years the fair was held at a space on West 34th Street.) "We believe that outsider art has become more and more a part of the art world conversation," says Edlin, noting that self-taught artist **Forrest Bess** was spotlighted in this year's **Whitney Biennial**. The move to Chelsea will situate the fair within the realm of mainstream contemporary art. "This year there will be some galleries that have never been at the Outsider Art Fair before, but may have a self-taught artist in their program," says Edlin, whose own gallery meets that description, with **Henry Darger, Thornton Dial, and Hans Krüsi** on the roster. "More and more collectors of contemporary art have begun to collect outsider art in the last several years," Edlin says. "I thought this was an incredible opportunity."

—JULIA HALPERIN



Andrew Edlin