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Go to Cincinnati for FotoFocus, Stay for the Street Art

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Last week, Cincinnati opened to a bevy of international artists and art tourists with the start of the city's second FotoFocus Biennial. Though the event itself promises plenty of exciting sights, with 50 participating local venues all dedicated to celebrating "lens-based art" throughout the month of October, newcomers to the city should also keep a lookout for some of the impressive mural work that graces its walls. Not that they'll have to look all that hard: Thanks to public arts organization ArtWorks, the streets of Cincinnati are covered in all kinds of painterly designs. Below is a small selection of some of the most eye-catching examples.



A pretty big commitment to the "Put a bird on it" ethos.



Some seriously impressive old school trompe l'oeil.



Anyone else for a rousing chorus of "Come to My Window"?



A little more abstract, but appropriately festive.



Of course, ArtWorks also had their contribution to FotoFocus, placing a series of art photographs in downtown bus stops (above is Richard Renaldi's "Jimmy and Matt," 2014).



After a while, even the construction sites appeared, at first, to be some sort of public sculpture initiative. (Honestly, jury's still out on this one.)



And last but not least, though probably not an ArtWorks commission, we found this stoopside piece augmented with a particularly appropriate donation (which we can confirm was, indeed, genuine).
— Anneliese Cooper (@DawnDavenport)