

Top 10 events of 2005.

Toulouse-Lautrec tops year in art, architecture

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It was a memorable year, 2005, at least for lovers of art and architecture in Chicago. It was the year of Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and Dan Flavin, of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Santiago Calatrava. It was the year of Chicago artists **Frank Connet** and Audrey Niffenegger. And it was the year of Petah Coyne, a New Yorker whose spectacular retrospective at the Chicago Cultural Center was one of the most majestic highlights of a grand season.

Here, therefore, are my top 10 art and architecture events of the year.

8. Frank Connet textiles at the Douglas Dawson Gallery in September: This talented Chicago artist combines his expert knowledge of antique textiles to create startlingly contemporary and vibrantly colorful compositions influenced by ethnographic imagery and Abstract Expressionism.