

CHICAGO

Lakefront Shuffle

Exposition Chicago, an art and design fair founded by former **Art Chicago** director **Tony Karman**, will debut at the Navy Pier in September 2012. According to Karman, the event aspires to combine the elegance of **renar Maastricht**, the curated feel of New York's **Independent**, and the large-scale installations of Basel's "Art Unlimited" section. Local art powerhouse **Rhona Hoffman**, dissatisfied with Art Chicago's Merchandise Mart space, has already signed on to the selection committee, as has San Francisco's **Anthony Meier**.

Meanwhile, changes in the ranks at Art Chicago and its parent, **Merchandise Mart Properties Inc.** (**MMPI**), may help keep the fair competitive. **Staci Boris**, former curator of the city's **Spertus Museum**, has been named the event's new director, and former **MMPI** vice president **Mark Falanga** has replaced **Christopher Kennedy** in the top post at the firm, which owns seven other fairs as well. Both Boris and Falanga acknowledge the need for new energy and clearer definition at Art Chicago. "The way a fair is defined," says Falanga, "is more compelling than the physical space in which it is produced."

For his part, Kennedy, who established **MMPI**'s fair program and left the company after almost 25 years, wrote in a memo that he plans to "do something different" in the fields of public policy and community service.

- JULIA HALPERIN



Mark Falanga



Staci Boris



Tony Karman