



Art News Now: Galleries & Art Fairs, Lichtenstein Painting Sold to Fund Criminal Justice Reform & More

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by Pat Rogers

Have a minute? Get caught up with art news from New York, The Hamptons, Long Island and beyond. Expect to find gallery news, art fair news and updates on people who make a difference in the art world.

GALLERY NEWS

Gallery Changes in New York City: Tibor de Nagy closed its uptown location and moved to the Lower East Side. "[Scavenge](#)," a solo show by [Medrie MacPheet](#), inaugurates its new location at 11/15 Rivington Street. It opens June 15, 2017. The gallery was located near 57th Street for 67 years, according to its website. P! gallery permanently closed on June 1, 2017, [announced the gallery](#). It had been based on Broome Street since 2012.

Gallery Changes in The Hamptons: Artist and art dealer Joel Meiser 's RENTAL Gallery opened in East Hampton Village in May 2017 with a group show of work by artists exhibited by his LA or subsequent New York City gallery. Meiser launched his first gallery on the West Coast in 2004. The artist and art dealer recently relocated to East Hampton with his family and plans to continue offering artist and curator-driven exhibitions. Hamptons and New York City art dealer Julie Keyes has launched Keyes Projects as a year-round gallery in Sag Harbor in the Christy's Art Center on Madison Street. The first show, "[Late Night Conversations](#)," features art by Larry Rivers and Nathan Slate Joseph.

Gallery Changes on the North Fork: [VSOP Projects](#) opened in Greenport Village in May 2017 with a group show of artists and artisans that capture the new gallery's exhibition program of presenting emerging and established contemporary talent. Founded by artist Jonathan Weiskopf, the gallery will also host community and creative events. East End Arts (EEA) has [expanded its exhibition spaces](#) for summer 2017 to include curated exhibitions at the Gallery at Borghese Winery in Cutchogue; the Greenport Theater Lobby and Peconic Landing in Greenport. All spaces are located on the North Fork and join the [Rosalie Dimon Gallery](#) at the Jamesport Manor Inn in Jamesport as part of EEA's satellite curation projects. In Riverhead, East End Arts presents curated shows at its gallery on West Main Street and at Riverhead Town Hall.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Ruth Appelhof, former Guild Hall Director, is currently in Rome researching a book on Lee Krasner after being awarded a \$25,000 Research Fellowship from the Pollock-Krasner House & Study Center, funded by the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, [announced the Foundation](#). Appelhof's working title for her book is "Lee Krasner: The Swing of the Pendulum" and is based on material collected for her Master's thesis on Krasner before she became Director of Guild Hall.

Islip Art Museum Head Curator and Exhibition / Curatorial Director Beth Giacummo-Lachacz has resigned and accepted the position of first Executive Director of the Patchogue Arts Council. She assumed her new role in April 2017 and will continue to curate shows at the Long Island art museum as an independent curator, said Giacummo-Lachacz.

Katelijne De Backer has been appointed the new director of PULSE art fair, announced the art fair. She begins her new position in July 2017, replacing Helen Toomer, who plans to found an artist residency program in upstate New York. She remains involved with PULSE as a new member of PULSE's Advisory Committee. [Katelijne De Backer](#) was most recently the director of Art New York and Art Miami Aqua, both produced by Art Miami. Previously, she was a Managing Director for Lehmann Maupin gallery and an Executive Director for The Armory Show for over a decade.

Daniel H. Weiss has been named CEO of the Metropolitan Museum, announced the MET. Weiss is currently the president and chief operation officer and will remain president of the New York City museum. A search for a new director will begin, according to the museum.

Arts patron Agnes Gund sold the Roy Lichtenstein painting, *Masterpiece*, 1962, for \$165 million in order to establish the new Art for Justice fund for criminal justice reform with the aim of reducing mass incarceration, reported Robin Pogrebin for the [New York Times](#), Art collector Steven A. Cohen bought the painting through Acquavella Galleries of New York in January 2017, reported *NYT*. One hundred million dollars from the proceeds of the sale will support the new fund, which is expected to be formally announced next week at MoMA, where Gund is a president emeritus, according to the *New York Times*.

ART FAIR NEWS

Art Hamptons and Art Southampton are passing on the 2017 Hamptons Summer. Both art fairs report deciding to decline producing their respective Hamptons summer art fairs in order to refocus their resources to upcoming fairs in Miami in December 2017. Art Miami, producer of Art Southampton, has plans to unveil its signature fair in a new and expanded location in December 2017. Urban Expositions, producer of Art Hamptons, is launching a new Miami fair: [Form](#). The new fair will focus on design and art and expects to present 25 exhibitors with form-driven art, according to Urban Expositions (which also produces SOFA Chicago). The fair production company purchased [Art Hamptons from founder Rick Friedman](#) in 2015 and presented its first (and only) edition last year. It continues to produce Art Palm Springs, which was also sold as part of the 2015 purchase.

The Armory Show announced it will launch a curatorial leadership summit during its

2018 fair, chaired by Naomi Beckwith, Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago. The summit will bring together prominent curators from around the world to cultivate new ideas and curatorial developments during a daylong program, according to the art fair.

Curators appointed for the fair's Focus and Platform Sections are Gabriel Ritter and Jen Mergel, respectively, announced the art fair. Ritter is the Curator and Head of Contemporary Art at the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia). Mergel is an independent curator, former Senior Curator of Contemporary Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and current Vice President, Programming, for the Association of Art Museum Curators, an international membership group for the art curatorial profession. [The Armory Show](#) will be held in New York from March 8 to 11, 2018 at Piers 92 & 94.



“Guidepost to a New World” by Yayoi Kusama at The Armory Show 2017.
Courtesy of The Armory Show.