



Art News: Eric Fischl Curates, Climate Change Gets its Due, Lee Krasner Painting May Break Record and More News to Know

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by Pat Rogers

Have a minute? Get caught up with news from the NY Metro Art Scene and the artists that make it a vibrant one.

Lee Krasner's *The Eye is the First Circle*, 1960, is already turning heads with an estimated \$10 million to \$15 million pricetag when it goes up for auction during Sotheby's contemporary art evening sale on May 16, 2019. If it sells, it will break her current auction record set by *Shattered Light*, 1954, which sold for \$5.5 million at Christie's New York in November 2017, [according to ArtNews](#).

The Eye is the First Circle was formerly owned by the Pollock Krasner Foundation and was acquired by the current owner in 1996, [according to Sotheby's](#). The painting is due to be part of the upcoming traveling retrospective exhibition "[Lee Krasner: In Living Colour](#)" with stops in London, Frankfurt, Bern and Bilbao. It opens at the [Barbican](#) in London on May 30, 2019.

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Artist Eric Fischl weighed in as Curatorial Advisor for the exhibition "That 80's Show" currently on view through July 7, 2019 at the Nassau County Museum of Art on Long Island, NY. The group show includes over 100 artworks by artists including Julian Schnabel, April Gornik, David Salle, Ross Bleckner, Bryan Hunt, Basquiat, Keith Haring, Cindy Sherman, Jenny Holzer, Robert Longo and others.

The show also includes fashion memorabilia from the era including Michael Jackson's glove, Madonna's jewelry, couture worn by Prince and sports clothing from the Islanders, the Mets and the 1980 Olympic hockey team. Click [here](#) for exhibition details.

The [2019 Whitney Biennial](#) is set to open on May 17, 2019 and continues on view through September 22, 2019. Feel like walking down Memory Lane for previous Biennials? **The New York City art museum has made it easy with previous Biennials now available**

online. More than [3,800 artists](#) have participated in the surveys of American contemporary art. [Click here](#) to start browsing.

Hearst selected climate change for its annual “art.now” exhibition that aims to take the pulse of what artists are currently creating. The show is presented at Hearst Tower in New York City in its Alexey Brodovitch and Hearst Gallery. “art.now 2019.2019 | metamorphosis: changing climate” features a strong line up of artists including [Alexis Rockman](#) (Sperone Westwater); Hugo McCloud (Sean Kelly); [Zaria Forman](#) (Winston Wachtler Fine Art); [Janet Culbertson](#) (Denise Bibro Fine Art); David Maisel (Edwynn Houk Gallery) and others.

The show was curated by Betty Levin, President of Corporate Art Directions, in conjunction with Heart Director and former COO Gil Mauer. The show remains on view through September 2019. Advance notice is required to see the show at Hearst Tower, 300 West 57th Street, New York, NY. [Click here](#) to view the show online.



“Vanishing Butterflies” by Janet Culbertson, 2017. Mixed media and collage on rag paper, 22 x 30 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

The Pollock-Krasner Foundation awarded \$3.168 million in 124 grants to 111 artists and 12 organizations for its 2018-2019 grant cycle, announced the organization. Artists are located across the United States and in 17 countries. Among the recipients are East Hampton artist [Virva Hinnemo](#) and New York artists Karin Batten, Robert Buck, Eric Holzman, Alfred Leslie, Don Porcaro, Veronica Ryan and others. Non-profit organizations recipients include [Pollock-Krasner House & Study Center](#) (East Hampton, NY); [Katonah Museum of Art](#) (Katonah, NY); [Storm King Art Center](#) (New Windsor, NY) and others.

Artist Puneeta Mittal has been named the new Head of the Ceramics Department at Art League of Long Island in Dix Hills, NY on Long Island, NY. Puneeta will supervise five ceramics instructors and plans to introduce a larger variety of ceramics methods and processes into the program. [Mittal](#) has taught ceramics at the Clayroom; as Adjunct Faculty at Adelphi University, Long Island University and Suffolk County Community College.