



MARCH 7–10 NYC

# PRESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK – MARCH 11, 2019

## THE ARMORY SHOW'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION CLOSURES WITH EXHIBITORS REPORTING ROBUST SALES ACROSS ALL EXHIBITOR SECTIONS, SOLD OUT BOOTHS, AND INSTITUTIONAL ACQUISITIONS

**UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF NICOLE BERRY, AND GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM THE ART COMMUNITY, THE ARMORY SHOW'S 2019 EDITION WAS PRAISED FOR THE BREADTH OF QUALITY ARTWORK ON DISPLAY, PRESENCE OF MUSEUM CURATORS, AND ORGANIZERS' EFFORTS TO CREATE A SEAMLESS EXPERIENCE ACROSS PIERS 90, 92, AND 94**

**The Armory Show** closed on Sunday, March 10, with exhibitors reporting excellent sales across all exhibitor sections on all five days of the fair. Numerous exhibitors reported acquisitions from private and public institutions across the U.S. and internationally, in addition to an increased presence of curators at the fair. For the second consecutive year, The Armory Show was presented by Lead Partner **Athena Art Finance**.

Cementing its role as New York's definitive international art fair, and bolstering its position as the marquee event to kick off the annual art calendar, The Armory Show welcomed over 57,000 visitors across all days, with a significant presence of museum curators, institutional trustees, and private collectors from over 160 museums and cultural institutions worldwide, including: Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Dallas Museum of Art, Denver Art Museum, de Young Museum, Hammer Museum, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, MIT List Visual Arts Center, Nasher Sculpture Garden, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Serpentine Galleries, Smart Museum of Art, Speed Art Museum, Tate Americas Foundation, Walker Art Center, and Warhol Museum.

"From the beginning of our work on the 25th Anniversary edition of The Armory Show, we recognized that this year was an incredibly important milestone. The bar that we set for the 2019 edition was high, and we can proudly say that this year's fair surpassed these bold expectations," remarked **Nicole Berry**, Executive Director. "With steady sales reported by galleries and notable institutional presence, The Armory Show remains the premier gateway for international galleries to access North American collectors and institutions. This year, we were proud to present a diverse, sophisticated, and exhilarating cross-section of galleries in the art world capital. As we write the next chapter of The Armory Show, the fair will continue to be the premier art fair in New York."

Notable attendees included: Philip and Shelly Fox Aarons, Cecilia Alemani, Pedro Barbosa, Maria Babikova, Swizz Beatz and Alicia Keys, Suzanne Deal Booth, Stacey Bendet, Estrellita B. Brodsky, Elizabeth Callender, Richard Chang, Sofia Coppola, Joel and Zoe Dictrow, Eric Diefenbach and JK Brown, Paul Dano and Zoe Kazan, Bob and Renee Drake, Tom Finkelppearl, James Franco, Ella Fontanals-Cisneros, Charlotte

Ford, Glenn Fuhrman, Ryan Gander, Alex Gartenfeld, Massimiliano Gioni, Thelma Golden, Agnes Gund, Susan and Michael Hort, Anne Huntington, Isabelle Huppert, Gianni Jetzer, Jill and Peter Kraus, Jenny Laird, Adam Lindemann, Glenn Lowry, Bernard Lumpkin, Sherry and Joel Mallin, Mariko Mori, David Mugrabi, B.J. Novak, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Anne Pasternak, Antoni Porowski, Q-Tip, Renee Rockefeller, Scott Rothkopf, Don and Mera Rubell, Beth Rudin de Woody, Howard Rachofsky, Paul Rudd, Paul Schimmel, Alan Schwartz, Phyllis Lally Seevers, Alain Servais, Jennifer Stockman, Daniel Sallick, James Spader, Laurie Tisch, Philippe Vergne, Adam Weinberg, Margaret Wu, and Anita and Poju Zabłudowicz.

The Armory Show's 25th Anniversary edition featured **198** galleries from **33** countries, with **63** new exhibitors, including several who have returned after years of absence, including **303 Gallery** (New York), **Tanya Bonakdar Gallery** (New York, Los Angeles), **Stephen Friedman Gallery** (London), **Galerie Krinzinger** (Vienna), **David Nolan Gallery** (New York), and **Zeno X Gallery** (Antwerp).

The 2019 edition reflected a strong focus on in-depth presentations and curatorial approaches, with over 80 exhibitors staging solo- and dual-artist presentations, from artist debuts to restaged historical works. The fair's second annual **Curatorial Leadership Summit** convened 70 invited curators for a close-door discussion chaired by **Dan Byers**, Director, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts at Harvard University.

The 2019 edition saw the distribution of \$40,000 in prizes to artists and galleries. **Ryan Gander's** *Het Spel* (*My neotonic ovoid contribution to Modernism*), 2019, presented by Lisson Gallery, was the winner of the inaugural **Pommery Prize**, which awards \$20,000 to be shared between the artist and presenting gallery. **Kapwani Kiwanga**, presented by **Galerie Jérôme Poggi**, was the winner of the inaugural **Étant donné Prize**, which awards \$10,000 to the artist. First-time exhibitor **Charlie James Gallery** was the winner of the third annual **Presents Booth Prize**, supported for the third consecutive year by **Athena Art Finance**.

**Armory Live** celebrated the fair's 25th Anniversary with four days of dedicated talks featuring internationally renowned artists, curators, collectors, and art practitioners. Notable highlights included **Melanie Gerlis**, Art Market Columnist, *Financial Times*, who led a discussion on the evolving role of the collector with gallerist **Sean Kelly**, collectors **Daniel Sallick** and **Pedro Barbosa**, art advisor **Lisa Schiff**, and Managing Director of Athena Art Finance, **Naomi Baigell**. **Charlotte Burns**, Executive Editor of *In Other Words*, writer **Antwaun Sargent**, artist **Paul Anthony Smith**, and **Lauren Haynes**, curator at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, probed what aspects of the American identity remain unaddressed and overlooked, while *ARTnews* Editor-in-Chief **Sarah Douglas**, writer **Linda Yablonsky**, and gallerist **Mitchell Algu**, considered how notions of sexuality and provocation have changed over the last twenty-five years.

**A selection of statements from our participating exhibitors are below:**

**303 Gallery**, New York (Galleries Section)

"We were thrilled to return to The Armory Show as they celebrated their milestone 25th anniversary. Each day brought strong sales to both local and European clients. The fair had such an energetic vibe and great events, from the Armory Live talks to the VIP program. Overall we were very happy with our experience, and we look forward to coming back." - Lisa Spellman, Owner & Director

**von Bartha**, Basel and S-chanf (Galleries Section)

"2019 was a very strong year for us at the Armory Show with good sales and an overwhelming response to our booth. We are more than pleased that the public liked our presentation. We are looking forward to returning in 2020. Thank you Armory, thank you New York!" - Stefan von Bartha, Founder

**David Castillo Gallery**, Miami Beach (Galleries Section)

"The 2019 edition of The Armory Show had a wonderful layout with a particularly excellent Galleries section this year. The gallery received major collections and institutions such as Tate Modern, Ford Foundation, MoMA, Thelma Golden, Carole Server & Oliver Frankel, Valerie Cassel Oliver, Rubell Family, UBS, Alain Servais; with confirmed sales to Agnes Gund, Gil & Doreen Bassin, JK Brown & Eric Diefenbach, and other international collections." - David Castillo, Partner & Director

**DAG, New Delhi (Insights Section)**

"We were overwhelmed with the positive response we received at DAG's very first Armory show. We are so thankful that the Armory gave us a platform to introduce Indian Modernism to a whole new audience. And we were so pleased with how enthusiastically it was received." - Robin Roche, Senior Vice President & Gallery Director

**Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran, Montreal (Presents Section)**

"The 25th anniversary of The Armory Show is such an important milestone for the fair. You can feel the deep connection people have with the fair and how important it is for the city and the New York art scene. It was our first participation at The Armory Show and the experience has been very positive in terms of visits and sales. We are thrilled to have sold out Michael Stamm's works and also sold two sculptures by Vancouver-based artist Vanessa Brown." - Antoine Ertaskiran, Owner & Director

**Fridman Gallery, New York (Focus Section)**

"We are happy to report that we have sold all of the works by Nate Lewis, the artist we presented in the Focus Section. Collectors have included institutions and museum trustees. We are thrilled to have participated in the Armory Show. The fair was extremely well organized, promoted, and attended." - Iliya Fridman, Director

**Stephen Friedman Gallery, London (Galleries Section)**

"I am delighted with the results of the fair so far – by day three we sold 20 works by a cross section of our gallery artists, including: Mamma Andersson, Andreas Eriksson, Manuel Espinosa, Denzil Forrester, Tom Friedman, Jim Hodges, Ilona Keseru, Deborah Roberts, Yinka Shonibare CBE, David Shrigley, and Kehinde Wiley. We have met new clients as well as reconnected with many we hadn't seen in a number of years. All in all I am very pleased to have made a return to The Armory Show after a sixteen-year absence and will certainly be returning next year." - Stephen Friedman, Founder

**Helwaser Gallery, New York (Insights Section)**

"We were confident that The Armory Show team would help mitigate the potential impact of the last-minute change of venue. We were not disappointed; the VIP preview day saw a strong turnout, and good organization by the fair in general. We noted a strong European audience at the fair; out of five works we sold at the fair, we placed two in German collections. We also had the opportunity to meet many French collectors in particular." - Antoine Helwaser, Owner

**The Hole, New York (Focus Section)**

"A parade of museum trustees came. It was packed and we sold out all paintings of our Alex Gardner solo show in the first hour. This is what you get when you take part in a premium fair." - Kathy Grayson, Owner

**Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Seattle (Galleries Section)**

"This is our fourth consecutive year and we've had an extremely successful fair. It was important for the 25th Anniversary that we made a strong statement concentrating on a single-artist presentation that we felt was reflective of the galleries program and the mission of the Gramercy fair, which sought to introduce emerging artists onto the international stage. This year we're pleased with the strong presence of curators and reported a sold-out booth in the fair's first days." - Mariane Ibrahim, Founder

**A Arte Invernizzi, Milan (Insights Section)**

"We presented the genesis and development, in between 1950 and 1956, of the seminal cycle "Spazio totale" ("Total Space") by Mario Nigro (Pistoia 1917 - Livorno 1992), one of the great protagonists of the European art from the late 1940s onwards. Nigro created a particular form of abstractionism, based on the dynamics of human relations and on a vision of art as a form of knowledge. We found a remarkable interest of the public and the art market and we had the chance to create new contacts." - Epicarmo Invernizzi, Founder

**Kayne Griffin Corcoran, Los Angeles (Galleries Section)**

"We were delighted to be back at The Armory Show again this year. The fair always delivers steady, dependable sales and more than met our expectations. We brought a wide selection of works ranging from blue chip to emerging and interest was strong across the board." - Sarah Watson, President

**Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco (Insights Section)**

"We received a very enthusiastic response to our booth of works by Hungarian born artists from the 1930s to 1970s, including Moholy-Nagy, Kepes, Kertész, Brassai and artists of the Hungarian Neo Avant-garde. We met with leading international institutions as well as prominent international private collectors that acquired rare works from us. We are very pleased with our experience at The Armory Show." - Ada Takahashi, Director

**Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles (Galleries Section)**

"The Armory Show this year has been a key opportunity for us to show works from Jonathan Lyndon Chase and John Altoon, two artists of different generations, on separate coasts of the United States, engaged in a dialogue about mind, body, and space. We sold all paintings by Chase, with four heading to major US institutions including The Walker Art Center and Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami. We are pleased to also report selling two John Altoon drawings to private collections." - Michael Kohn, Owner

**Lisson Gallery, London, New York (Galleries Section)**

"We were pleased to return to The Armory Show again, and had a successful fair with a focus on the work of Anthony Cragg. We saw strong sales of the sculptures and drawings and saw increased conversation in the greater New York region with collectors, curators and media about his practice. We were exceptionally pleased with Ryan Gander's presentation for Platform, and his win for the inaugural Pommery prize, devoted to large-scale sculpture." - Alex Logsdail, Executive Director

**Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles (Presents Section)**

"All the work has been placed with great collections and institutional institutions. It is a great platform for Louise Bonnet to exhibit in NYC." - Nino Mier, Founder

**Shulamit Nazarian, Los Angeles (Presents Section)**

"In our second year participating in The Armory Show, we debuted new works by Naudline Pierre and Fay Ray, which were well received by an engaged group of collectors, critics and curators alike. We placed Pierre's largest painting in the Dean Collection., and were thrilled to see our presentation highlighted in The New York Times. We look forward to returning next year!" - Shulamit Nazarian, Founder

**David Nolan Gallery, New York (Galleries Section)**

"Of particular note was the tremendous attendance levels and the enormous amount of new clients. People responded particularly well to our solo survey presentation of Jorinde Voigt." - David Nolan, Founder

**Roberts Projects, Los Angeles (Galleries Section)**

"We've sold works by Kehinde Wiley and Jeffrey Gibson ranging \$150,000--\$300,000 with many other sales and reserves including multiple institutional reserves." - Julie Roberts, Co-Founder

**Galeria Nara Roesler, Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, New York (Galleries Section)**

"The fair was well attended; both by collectors and U.S. museums. Sales have been strong, with works placed in collections with which we have long established relationships and some which were entirely new to the gallery." - Daniel Roesler, Partner

**Jack Shainman Gallery, New York (Galleries Section)**

"This has been another strong year for us at The Armory Show. Visitors – both new and familiar to the gallery – were thoughtful and engaged, and we were delighted by the positive response to our presentation from private collectors as well as institutions. As part of the fair's 2019 programming, we were also pleased to see Paul Anthony Smith, the newest artist to join Jack Shainman, in conversation with Charlotte Burns of *In Other Words* in advance of his first exhibition opening at the gallery next month." - Jack Shainman, Owner and Founder

**Susan Sheehan Gallery, New York (Insights Section)**

"We had strong sales and were unaffected by the change in location. Most significantly we were thrilled to report the sale of a Helen Frankenthaler to Princeton University Art Museum. We look forward to returning next year" - Susan Sheehan, Founder

**Galerie Tanja Wagner, Berlin (Presents Section)**

"This year's edition has been a wonderful introduction for the Grit Richter as it's their first time presenting in the U.S. The feedback has been fantastic: could not have gone better. We have sold to private collectors and a corporate company." - Tanja Wagner, Founder

**Zeno X Gallery, Antwerp (Galleries Section)**

"We were happy to see some really top collectors, and we had a lot of interest during the whole week. In terms of sales, we are very happy as we sold our major works: two works by Michaël Borremans, a unique sculpture by Mark Manders, N. Dash, Paulo Monteiro, Jan De Maesschalck, etc. We made a special cabinet presentation for the American artist Kim Jones and received a lot of interest for Kees Goudzwaard and Johannes Kahrs – - two artists that we hope to sell after the fair. We met and sold to new clients, and we were happy that we did not only receive inquiries on the first day." - Frank Demaegd, Co-Founder

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### The Armory Show

The Armory Show is New York City's premier art fair, and a leading cultural destination for discovering and collecting the world's most important 20th- and 21st-century art. Staged on Manhattan's Piers 90, 92, and 94, The Armory Show features presentations by leading international galleries, innovative artist commissions, and dynamic public programs. Since its founding in 1994, The Armory Show has served as a nexus for the international art world, inspiring dialogue, discovery, and patronage in the visual arts.

### Important Information for Media

#### Images and Information

[Download 2019 fair images.](#)

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