

The World According To...

Rita Ackermann, Forrest Bess, Katherine Bradford, Alexander Calder, Leidy Churchman, Celeste Dupuy-Spencer, David Hockney, Peter Hujar, Alex Katz, Koo Jeong A, Thomas Nozkowski, Arlene Shechet, Alfred Stieglitz

32 East 57th Street, 2nd Floor
February 13 – March 23, 2019

Opening Reception:
Tuesday, February 12, 6 – 8 PM

New York—Pace Gallery is honored to present a group exhibition, *The World According to...*, the first project curated by Andria Hickey, Pace Gallery's newly appointed Senior Director and Curator. Bringing together works from a diverse group of artists, including both historical and contemporary figures, the exhibition reflects singular visions that examine life from another angle. Encompassing painting, sculpture, video, and photography, each work reveals an extraordinary vision of the ordinary. The exhibition will be on view at Pace's gallery at 32 East 57th Street from February 13 – March 23, 2019, with an opening reception held on the evening of Tuesday, February 12.

In 1961, Susan Sontag recalled Jean-Paul Sartre's notion of "cosmophagy," or the idea of "devouring of the world by consciousness," as an explanation for the singularity of artistic vision that is unique among us. Taking that idea as inspiration, the exhibition points to the rich and poetic territory that exists between memories, images, and dreams. The artists in this show operate as interpreters of our complex visual world filled with screens, digital images, photographs, artworks, and the landscape itself.

A tension between abstraction and figuration is also present throughout the exhibition as materials and reference points are transformed, baring only traces of the original sources of inspiration. Thomas Nozkowski's paintings draw from personal experience: objects, ideas, books, places, and, more often than not, his reverent walks through nature. Expanding the possibility of landscape painting and the physical presence of an abstract form with each negotiation of the picture plane, Nozkowski's paintings offer a view of the world that is both rooted in the subjective terrain of experience and an otherworldly space of art and vision.

Arlene Shechet's bulbous stacked sculptures use clay, wood, steel, and color to offer a view of the world that is full of possibility and simultaneously coming together. Three works from Alfred Stieglitz's series, *Equivalent*s (1925–34) depict the night sky and bring clouds into the realm of abstraction. Similarly, a series of watercolor paintings by Koo Jeong A explore color and form in a meditation on the natural world. The jewel-like enigmatic images in fact picture a constellation of basalt rocks that are a continuation of the artist's installation of geological formations in the DMZ, a protected conservation wetland between North and South Korea.

Figuration as transformation is present in the dreamlike visionary worlds of three painters: Celeste Dupuy-Spencer, Katherine Bradford, and Leidy Churchman. In Bradford's paintings, monumental figures in hues of purple, orange, and pink transform a bodily presence into an auratic object—embraced, hovering, and occupying the subjective space of memory with enigmatic energy. Similarly, Churchman's diverse paintings—here exemplified in the surreal floating image of *Faultless Aspect* (2017) and the large, text-based work *Nontheistic Dharma: Norms in a Nutshell* (2016)—suggest a relationship with the spiritual world that is grounded in lived experience. Dupuy-Spencer's new paintings, created especially for this exhibition, expound on these themes, referring to the transcendence of iconographic paintings in images that push and pull between the present and a distant vision.

The centerpiece of the exhibition is David Hockney's *Seven Yorkshire Landscapes* (2011), an 18-screen video installation shown here for the first time in New York, in which eighteen cameras, fixed to Hockney's car, recorded drives through the pastoral landscape of Yorkshire. The myriad and shifting perspectives of a journey through the verdant countryside displayed in this multi-screen grid articulates the wonder of seeing things from different points of view. For Hockney, these multiple perspectives “force the eye to scan, and it is impossible to see everything at once... [It] gives back the choice to the viewer, and hence...brings about possibilities for new narratives.”

Artists Featured

Rita Ackermann (b. 1968, Budapest, Hungary)
Forrest Bess (b. 1911, Bay City, TX; d. 1977, Bay City, TX)
Katherine Bradford (B. 1942, New York)
Alexander Calder (b. 1898, Lawnton, PA; d. 1976, New York)
Leidy Churchman (b. 1979, Villanova, PA)
Celeste Dupuy-Spencer (b. 1979, New York)
David Hockney (b. 1937, Bradford, England)
Peter Hujar (b. 1934, Trenton, NJ; d. 1987, New York)
Alex Katz (b. 1927, Brooklyn, NY)
Koo Jeong A (b. 1967, Seoul, South Korea)
Thomas Nozkowski (b. 1944, Teaneck, NJ)
Arlene Shechet (b. 1951, New York)
Alfred Stieglitz (b. 1864, Hoboken, NJ; d. 1946, New York)

Pace is a leading contemporary art gallery representing many of the most significant international artists and estates of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

Under the leadership of President and CEO Marc Glimcher, Pace is a vital force within the art world and plays a critical role in shaping the history, creation, and engagement with modern and contemporary art. Since its founding by Arne Glimcher in 1960, Pace has developed a distinguished legacy for vibrant and dedicated relationships with renowned artists. As the gallery approaches the start of its seventh decade, Pace's mission continues to be inspired by our drive to support the world's most influential and innovative artists and to share their visionary work with people around the world.

Pace advances this mission through its dynamic global program, comprising ambitious exhibitions, artist projects, public installations, institutional collaborations, and curatorial research and writing. Today, Pace has ten locations

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worldwide: three galleries in New York; one in London; one in Geneva; one in Palo Alto, California; one in Beijing; two in Hong Kong; and one in Seoul. Pace will open a new flagship gallery at 540 West 25th Street in New York in September 2019.

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