

# Sotheby's

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## Sotheby's to Present ARTISTS FOR THE HAMMER MUSEUM

Leading Contemporary Artists to Donate Works  
For Auction at Sotheby's Supporting the Creation of  
A New Artist Fund at the Hammer Museum at UCLA

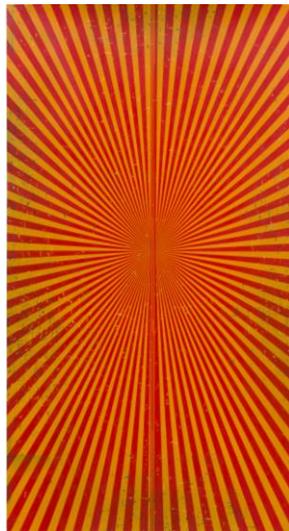
*\*Participating Artists Include\**

Mark Bradford | Cecily Brown | Vija Celmins | Jimmie Durham  
Charles Gaines | Mark Grotjahn | Jim Hodges | Rashid Johnson  
Barbara Kruger | Glenn Ligon | Laura Owens | Ed Ruscha  
Henry Taylor | Mary Weatherford | Ai Weiwei | Jonas Wood  
And More

To Be Offered across Sotheby's Marquee May Auctions of  
CONTEMPORARY ART  
In New York



Mark Bradford  
**Scratch Pink**  
Estimate \$2/3 million



Mark Grotjahn  
**Untitled (Poppy Red  
and Yellowed Orange  
Butterfly 50.94)**  
Estimate \$600/800,000



Barbara Kruger  
**Untitled (Avoid eye contact)**  
Estimate \$200/300,000



Jonas Wood  
**Shio Butterfly Still Life**  
Estimate \$300/400,000

## Public Exhibitions

Los Angeles (UTA Artist Space): 17 - 20 April

New York (Sotheby's): 3 - 16 May

**NEW YORK, 28 March 2019** – Sotheby's is thrilled to announce that important works by nearly 40 celebrated artists with strong ties to the Hammer Museum at UCLA have been donated for auction this May at Sotheby's New York. Under the visionary direction of Ann Philbin, the Los Angeles institution has emerged over the past two decades as one of the most vibrant and influential museums in America. This historic sale will support the creation of a new Artist Fund, which will directly support the museum's pioneering exhibition program and work with emerging artists. The fund is part of the museum's \$180 million capital campaign, which also includes a major transformation of the Hammer's facility and an expansion of its endowment.

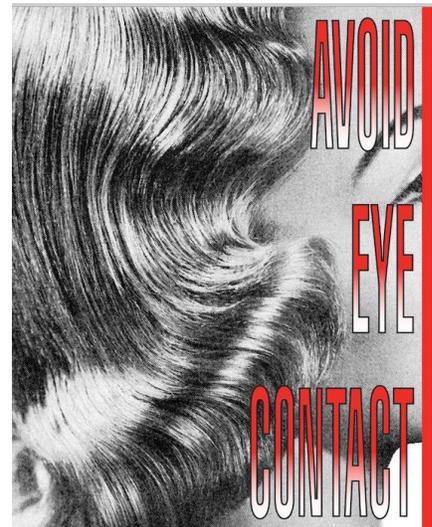
The list of participating artists highlights the Hammer's deep roots in L.A.'s artistic community and its connection to broader currents in contemporary art. The sale features works by: **Kevin Beasley, Larry Bell, Lee Bontecou, Louise Bourgeois, Frank Bowling, Mark Bradford, Cecily Brown, Vija Celmins, Judy Chicago, Jimmie Durham, Charles Gaines, Mark Grotjahn, Jennifer Guidi, Jim Hodges, Luchita Hurtado, Rashid Johnson, Barbara Kruger, Shio Kusaka, Glenn Ligon, Sarah Lucas, Brice Marden, Marisa Merz, Meleko Mokgosi, Catherine Opie, Gabriel Orozco, Laura Owens, Raymond Pettibon, Lari Pittman, Sigmar Polke, Christina Quarles, Ed Ruscha, Analia Saban, Kenny Scharf, Cindy Sherman, Lorna Simpson, Henry Taylor, Kaari Upson, Mary Weatherford, Ai Weiwei, and Jonas Wood.**

The donated works will be offered across Sotheby's Evening and Day Auctions of Contemporary Art on 16 & 17 May in New York, with public exhibition previews in Los Angeles at UTA Artist Space from 17–20 April and in New York at Sotheby's York Avenue galleries opening 3 May.

*Ann Philbin, Director of the Hammer Museum at UCLA, said:* "Artists are the heart of our institution, and I am incredibly grateful to all those who have donated works to support this effort. The Hammer is proud to have shown many of these artists early in their careers, and we are delighted that their generosity will in turn support the work of generations of artists to come. We are extremely pleased to have Sotheby's as our partner in making the auction possible."

*Nina del Rio, Sotheby's Vice Chairman, commented: "We are honored to be assisting the Hammer Museum at UCLA during this transformative and exciting time for the institution. The generosity of the artists is outstanding, and we look forward to presenting their works at auction this May."*

*Barbara Kruger, artist and member of the museum's Board of Overseers, who has donated to Artists for the Hammer Museum, stated: "The Hammer Museum's ambitious exhibitions and vital public programming are an indispensable part of the conversations around visual culture, value, power, and place. Its curatorial focus is brave, inclusive, consistently rigorous and eloquently reflects the past, present and futures of cultural forces."*



A highlight of the group is Mark Bradford's **Scratch Pink** from 2018, which is estimated to sell for \$2/3 million in the Contemporary Art Evening Auction on 16 May. Renowned for his richly textured canvases built up of layers of collaged paper, Bradford's expressive abstraction embodies the urban experience as-lived. Invoking visions of cartographic grids or aerial topography, *Scratch Pink* is an exceptionally vibrant example of the artist's mixed media paintings, which have most recently been celebrated in his solo shows at Hauser & Wirth in Hong Kong and Los Angeles. Widely regarded as amongst the most influential artists of his generation, Bradford received his first solo museum exhibition in his hometown of Los Angeles, *Mark Bradford: Scorched Earth*, at the Hammer Museum in 2015.

The Evening Auction will also include a large-scale work on paper from Los Angeles-based artist Mark Grotjahn, **Untitled (Poppy Red and Yellowed Orange Butterfly 50.94)** from 2018 (estimate \$600/800,000). Combining rigorous geometric precision with vibrant abstraction, this work hails from Grotjahn's seminal series of Butterfly drawings, exemplifying the artist's signature manipulation of perspective to create an exquisite, visually hypnotic composition. An early presentation of the Butterfly works on paper were



exhibited at the Hammer Museum in 2005, and examples from the series are today held in the collections of numerous major museums worldwide.



A highlight of the Day Auction, Jonas Wood's **Shio Butterfly Still Life** from 2019 exemplifies the artist's signature use of rich pattern-work to capture familiar scenes of domestic life (estimate \$300/400,000). Wood is married to ceramicist Shio Kusaka—also featured in the auction for the Hammer—whose exquisite vessels often make appearances in Wood's paintings and to whom the title most aptly references. Here, the clashing combination of color, form, and pattern is a commanding testament to the timeless visual intrigue of overlapping textures, bold hues, and flattened distortions of space seen in Cubist masterpieces. Wood pays homage to Cubism through his constant negotiation between the representational and the abstract, while creating pictures that are unmistakably fresh and utterly contemporary.

The Hammer Museum publicly announced its capital campaign in February 2018 with a \$30 million lead gift from Los Angeles philanthropists Lynda and Stewart Resnick and a \$20 million gift from Marcy Carsey, chair of the museum's Board of Directors. Half of the campaign's \$180 million goal will underwrite a major multiyear transformation of the Hammer's facility to be completed in 2020, with the remainder of the funds providing ongoing support for the museum's acclaimed programs, exhibitions, and operations. The campaign has raised more than \$140 million to date.



Rendering of the Hammer's new contemporary gallery, courtesy Michael Maltzan Architecture

#### **About The Hammer Museum**

The Hammer Museum is part of the School of the Arts and Architecture at UCLA, and offers exhibitions and collections that span classic to contemporary art. It holds more than 50,000 works in its collection, including one of the finest collections of works on paper in the nation, the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts. Through a wide-ranging, international exhibition program and the biennial, *Made in L.A.*, the Hammer highlights contemporary art since the 1960s, especially the work of emerging and under recognized artists. The exhibitions, permanent collections, and nearly 300 public programs annually—including film screenings, lectures, symposia, readings, music performances, and workshops for families—are all free to the public.

The Hammer Museum building was originally designed by Edward Larrabee Barnes, and has over the last decade been enhanced and renovated by L.A.-based architect Michael Maltzan. The adjoining office tower was designed by architect Claud Beelman, a leader in the Art Deco and Modern movements on the West Coast in the middle of the last century. The Hammer's current transformation project will add 40,000 square feet of new space for the collection, exhibitions, and public programs; create 60 percent more gallery space and 20,000 square feet of enhanced public space; and establish a visible new presence along a full block of L.A.'s iconic Wilshire Boulevard.

To learn more visit <https://hammer.ucla.edu/campaign>

### **About Sotheby's**

Sotheby's has been uniting collectors with world-class works of art since 1744. Sotheby's became the first international auction house when it expanded from London to New York (1955), the first to conduct sales in Hong Kong (1973), India (1992) and France (2001), and the first international fine art auction house in China (2012). Today, Sotheby's presents auctions in 10 different salesrooms, including New York, London, Hong Kong and Paris, and Sotheby's BidNow program allows visitors to view all auctions live online and place bids from anywhere in the world. Sotheby's offers collectors the resources of *Sotheby's Financial Services*, the world's only full-service art financing company, as well as the collection, artist, estate & foundation advisory services of its subsidiary, *Art Agency, Partners*. Sotheby's presents private sale opportunities in more than 70 categories, including S|2, the gallery arm of Sotheby's Global Fine Art Division, and three retail businesses: Sotheby's Wine, Sotheby's Diamonds, and Sotheby's Home, the online marketplace for interior design. Sotheby's has a global network of 80 offices in 40 countries and is the oldest company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE).

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium and are net of any fees paid to the purchaser where the purchaser provided an irrevocable bid.*

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