

Fifth Edition of the Seattle Art Fair Culminates with Strong Sales and 2020 Dates Announcement

Seattle Art Fair Will Return July 23-26, 2020



Clockwise from top left: Seattle Art Fair crowds observe *Incubator for Earthquakes*; Mike McCready and Kate Neckel's *Infinite Color & Sound* performance; guests viewing artwork; Patricia Piccinini's *The Bond and the Loafers*.
Photos Courtesy of Seattle Art Fair.

(SEATTLE, WA — August 5, 2019) — The 2019 **Seattle Art Fair**, presented by AIG, culminated with standout presentations and record-breaking attendance as a result of the diverse gallery exhibitions and highly engaging Projects & Talks curated by the fair's Artistic Director, **Nato Thompson**. The Seattle Art Fair will return for its sixth edition **July 23-26, 2020**.

In its fifth edition, the Seattle Art Fair further established the city of Seattle as an influential player in the global art landscape. The fair showcased **over 100 exhibitors** from cities around the globe, including Tokyo, Seoul, Berlin, New York, Miami, London, Toronto, Hồ Chí Minh, and Moscow, and an array of galleries from the Pacific Northwest.

The visionary founder of the Seattle Art Fair, **Paul G. Allen**, created the fair with a goal to be a one-of-a-kind destination for the best in modern and contemporary art and a showcase of the thriving arts

community in the Pacific Northwest. The Seattle Art Fair continues to build momentum to create a truly unique, innovative event that strengthens the Seattle art scene.

[Images available here.](#)

Photos Courtesy of Seattle Art Fair.

The fair kicked off on Thursday with the annual Collector's Preview. During a celebratory toast with the Seattle Art Fair host committee, Seattle Mayor **Jenny Durkan** and **Jody Allen** thanked the city of Seattle for its continuous support of its cultural community.

FAIR HIGHLIGHTS:

PROJECTS & TALKS MERGE TECHNOLOGY AND ART

"Our Projects and Talks program offered unexpected yet pleasurable experiences for all audiences," said **Nato Thompson, Artistic Director of Seattle Art Fair**. "I wanted the art fair to be a platform for people of many ages and cultures to get together and find wonderful ways to appreciate art and each other. Consider that box checked."



Clockwise from top left: Bigert & Bergström's *Incubator for Earthquakes*; Patricia Piccinini's *The Bond and the Loafers*; Stephanie Dinkins's AI robot, *Not the Only One (N'TOO)*; Larry Ossei Mensah and Rita Gonzalez discuss contemporary curating.
Photos Courtesy of Seattle Art Fair.

Returning Seattle Art Fair Artistic Director **Nato Thompson** curated a *Wunderkammers*-inspired slate of Projects & Talks, including Stephanie Dinkins' voice activated AI robot **Not The Only One (N'TOO)** that tells the stories of multigenerational black women; **Incubator for Earthquakes**, a kinetic dinner table sculpture that mimicked an earthquake with rattling china by Swedish artist duo **Bigert & Bergström**; **The Bond and The Loafers** by **Patricia Piccinini**, an intriguing anthropomorphic sculpture made predominantly of silicone and hair; and an insightful discussion on contemporary curating practices with **Larry Ossei-Mensah**, senior curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, **Paula Marincola**, executive director of The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, and **Rita Gonzalez**, head of contemporary art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; and a discussion about how artists and collectors can collaborate to create market disruption and dynamic innovations.

PEARL JAM'S MIKE MCCREADY AND ARTIST KATE NECKEL'S ART & MUSIC COLLABORATION, PLUS A RED HOT CHILI PEPPER



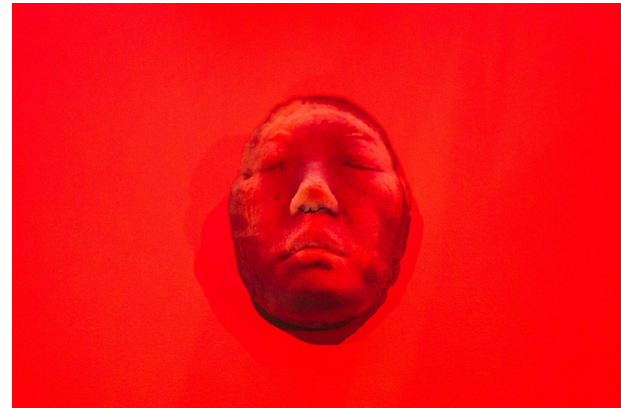
Left: Mike McCready painting. **Right:** Kate Neckel with sculptures. Photos Courtesy of Seattle Art Fair.

For the first time, the fair included the second-floor mezzanine, which served as the performance space for **Pearl Jam's Mike McCready** and artist **Kate Neckel's** art and music performance, **Infinite Color & Sound**, which featured special guest **Josh Klinghoffer**, the Red Hot Chili Peppers's guitarist. Together, artist and rockstars created an immersive visual and musical experience. The mezzanine also offered access to the **VIP and Premium Lounges** that featured an aerial view of the fairground, and more.



Mike McCready (Pearl Jam), Kate Neckel, and Josh Klinghoffer (Red Hot Chili Peppers). Photo Courtesy of Seattle Art Fair.

ASMR WITH BREAD FACE



Left: Bread Face performing for Seattle Art Fair audiences. **Right:** A bread mold of Bread Face's face.
Photos Courtesy of Seattle Art Fair.

Social media sensation Bread Face brought her hypnotic signature ASMR videos to life with an interactive installation featuring bread sculptures in her likeness and intimate bread smashing performances each day of the fair. Twenty-four loaves of bread were left out each day, inviting fairgoers to try to experience the artist's chosen medium—bread—in a whole new way.

FRYE ART MUSEUM ACQUIRES ARTWORKS FOR PERMANENT COLLECTION AS PART OF SEATTLE ART FAIR PARTNERSHIP



Left: Anthony White. *To a Flame*, 2019. PLA on panel. Courtesy Greg Kucera Gallery, Seattle.

Right: Ko Kirk Yamahira. *Untitled*, 2019. Acrylic, graphite, partially unwoven canvas, wood. Courtesy Russo Lee Gallery, Portland.

The Frye Art Museum acquired artworks from four Pacific Northwest galleries. From Portland, a work on paper by **Jeffry Mitchell** from **PDX CONTEMPORARY ART** and a multimedia artwork by **Ko Kirk Yamahira** from **Russo Lee Gallery**. From Seattle, a drawing by **Mary Ann Peters** from **James Harris Gallery** and a painting by **Anthony White** from **Greg Kucera Gallery**. Last year, Frye Art Museum selected artworks by Toyin Ojih Odutola from Albuquerque's Tamarind Institute and Ellen Lesperance from Portland-based gallery Adams and Ollman.



Left: Jeffrey Mitchell. *Snowflake Drawing #5 (Double Lotus Pod)*, 2018 graphite, ink, carbon transfer and watercolor on paper. Courtesy PDX CONTEMPORARY ART, Portland. **Right:** Mary Ann Peters. *this trembling turf (the shallows)*, 2018. White ink on black clayboard. Courtesy James Harris Gallery, Seattle.

The two-year acquisition partnership was established in 2018 with a \$25,000 gift from the Seattle Art Fair to the **Frye Art Museum** to support the launch of the **Contemporary Council**, an affiliate group dedicated to expanding the museum's contemporary art holdings and fostering a new generation of art collectors in Seattle. A second gift of \$25,000 was provided for the 2019 edition of the fair, culminating in a total of \$50,000 for the museum to expand its permanent collection.

RISING STAR ANTHONY WHITE AT LIVE EDITIONS AND GREG KUCERA GALLERY



Anthony White at Live Editions printing booth. Photo Courtesy of Seattle Art Fair.

Local Seattle artist **Anthony White** stood out to curators, exhibitors, and fairgoers throughout the weekend. His work, *To a Flame*, 2019, at Greg Kucera Gallery was a fair-favorite, and was selected by the Frye Art Museum for its permanent collection as part of their partnership with the fair. His printed artworks were a hit at the Live Editions booth, a pop-up printing facility within the fair, where guests lined up by the dozens for free screen prints throughout the weekend.

DEBUT OF PRZEMEK PYSZCZEK'S COLORFUL "PLAYGROUND" AT TODD MERRILL STUDIO



Visitor enjoying Przemek Pyszczyk's presentation at Todd Merrill Studio. Photo Courtesy of Seattle Art Fair.

For his first exhibition with Todd Merrill Studio, Polish-Canadian artist **Przemek Pyszczyk** showcased his conceptual artwork, *Playground Structures*, featuring high-end, playfully utilitarian furniture design.

FROM THE DEALERS

“We are grateful that we have been part of the Seattle Art Fair since the very beginning. Each of the past five years have been successful in sales and connections. This year we enjoyed sales from a broad spectrum of clients, from first time buyers and young collectors to more seasoned collectors and institutions.” — **Jane Beebe, Owner, PDX CONTEMPORARY ART (Portland)**

“We have thrived here in Seattle and the fair has our exceeded our expectations. We sold out of our Keith Haring artworks and placed paintings and ceramics in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range with new and existing clients and started new relationships with important international collectors.” — **Diane Rosenstein, Owner, Diane Rosenstein Gallery (Los Angeles)**

“This year’s sales were even better than last year and we were happy to establish a 40/60 split between new and existing clients. The Collector Preview was especially successful, with the brisk sale of all three Niyoko Ikuta glass artworks we had available.” — **Wahei Aoyama, Owner, Yufuku Gallery (Tokyo)**

“Our participation has been outstanding this year. Many clients who purchased Heather Day’s work are from Seattle and the Pacific Northwest, and it’s been wonderful to expand our relationships with collectors

outside of the New York area, while also expanding Heather's already dedicated collector base." —
Karyn Behnke, Director, Joshua Liner Gallery

ABOUT SEATTLE ART FAIR

The Seattle Art Fair, presented by AIG, is a one-of-a-kind destination for the best in modern and contemporary art and a showcase for the vibrant arts community of the Pacific Northwest. Based in Seattle, a city as renowned for its natural beauty as its cultural landscape, the fair brings together the region's strong collector base; local, national, and international galleries; area museums and institutions; and an array of innovative public programming. Founded in 2015 by Paul G. Allen, the Seattle Art Fair is produced by Vulcan Arts + Entertainment, and Art Market Productions.

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