The Art Show celebrated 35th annual edition at Park Avenue Armory

The 2023 edition raised over $1.1 million for Henry Street Settlement, which jointly organized a special presentation of paintings by artist Kate Capshaw with the ADAA

(NEW YORK, N.Y. – November 6, 2023) – The Art Show, organized by the Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA), returned for its 35th annual edition this past week at the Park Avenue Armory. The fair ran from November 1-5, bringing together the city’s top collectors, curators, museum directors, advisors, artists, and writers. On November 1, the Benefit Preview united the worlds of art and philanthropy to support Henry Street Settlement—the social services and arts organization that has aided New Yorkers in need for 130 years—during a glamorous first look at the fair. Proceeds from the Benefit Preview and admissions from the run of show garnered over $1.1 million for the Settlement—a number that is due to increase substantially after the forthcoming sale at the Sotheby’s Contemporary Day Auction on November 14, 2023, of an intimate drawing by Henri Matisse, generously donated by The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation. For the 12th consecutive year in 15 years of partnership, AXA XL, a division of AXA, returned as the Lead Insurance Partner of The Art Show, providing specialist fine art and collectibles risk-management solutions.

“This 35th edition of the fair was a true celebration of the ADAA mission and the powerful work of its member galleries. The Art Show’s enthusiastic public reception, from those generously supporting the Benefit Preview to the collectors, artists, and curators gathering at our sold-out events, demonstrates the impact and reach of the fair, and the critical support it brings to longtime partner Henry Street Settlement. Our ADAA member galleries transcended all expectations in their critically acclaimed presentations of
under-recognized talents, historic pinnacles, and contemporary greats alike—highlighting the value of the peer-review process that distinguishes The Art Show and makes it an eagerly awaited event every year,” says ADAA Executive Director, Maureen Bray.

Programming:
Highlights of the week included 78 exhibitors and 57 solo presentations and a special presentation with artist Kate Capshaw, jointly organized by ADAA and the Settlement. One of Capshaw’s new portraits—depicting a Settlement staff member who, after 26 years of incarceration, is now an inspiring mentor and youth leader—greeted visitors at the entryway of the fair at the Park Avenue Armory. A second new portrait pictures three brothers who have greatly benefited from the Settlement’s programs. Both works are included in an exhibition at the Settlement’s Dale Jones Burch Neighborhood Center on the Lower East Side. Bringing to the forefront both the organization’s charitable work and the philanthropic nature of The Art Show, this presentation was further enlivened by a discussion on Saturday, November 4, moderated by Maureen Bray, in which David Garza, president & CEO of Henry Street Settlement, and Capshaw discussed these new works and the importance of the Settlement’s work to support New Yorkers in need with education, employment, shelter, and arts programs.

Additional special programs took place on each day of the fair, including a conversation between gallerist-turned-painter Joel Mesler and Rabbi Korn, moderated by art advisor Benjamin Godsill, about Mesler’s series of rabbinical portraits; a discussion between collector Komal Shah and curator Cecilia Alemani, moderated by Julia Halperin, about how they each strive through varied means to champion women artists; a talk between art historian Midori Yamamura and Michelle Yun Mapplethorpe, Executive Director of the Katonah Museum of Art on how Asian artists made alliances and created networks of exchange in order to come to the United States and make sustainable studio practices in New York in the 1960s, moderated by Lisa Kim of the Ford Foundation and coinciding with Tina Kim Gallery’s historical presentation of Minoru Niizuma and Kim Tschang-Yeul; and “Meet the Artists,” which provided visitors to the fair with the opportunity to meet and mingle with exhibiting artists as well as experts who shed light on some of the fair’s historical presentations.

Best in Show Awards:
For the fourth year, The Art Show Committee, composed of ADAA members, selected “Best in Show” designees in recognition of those members whose presentations epitomized the connoisseurship and industry leadership of the ADAA membership. The 2023 winners are: Pace Gallery, “Best in Show Booth” for its solo presentation of work by Kiki Smith, and Sikkema Jenkins & Co., “Best in Show Object” for Ondine (2022–23) by Sheila Hicks.

Sustainability Roadmap:
In 2022, The Art Show asked a pilot group of exhibitors to track their climate impact resulting from participation in the fair, using the Climate Impact Report (CIR) model developed by Artists Commit. These CIRs were tailored by LHL Consulting specifically for exhibitors’ participation in The Art Show. In addition to promoting a practice of self-assessment and building climate-fluency, CIRs submitted for The Art Show will help design more environmentally responsible future fairs. For the 2023 fair, all exhibitors were invited to participate in the CIR process; over 50 exhibitors volunteered to participate and to provide data to track climate impact.
Quotes from the galleries:

“We are thrilled to have joined the ADAA this year and to participate in The Art Show for the first time. I was pleased by all of the solo presentations as well as the general atmosphere. We hosted collectors as well as institutions at the fair, whose representatives were particularly engaged. For our booth, we gave carte blanche to painter Claire Tabouret, who presented the first furniture collaboration between herself and partner Nathan Thelen, a talented woodworker. Tabouret’s portraits were inspired by Isabelle Eberhardt, a 19th-century writer who denounced her Swiss upbringing to travel and educate herself on North African culture. The project is an extension of a larger series that depicts creatives who chose to remove themselves from public life.”
— Peggy Leboeuf, Partner at Perrotin, New York.

“The Art Show is always a wonderful opportunity to meaningfully engage with collectors and colleagues, and we are grateful for the response to our sold out Emily Mason solo presentation, which was deservingly tremendous.”
— Miles McEnery, Founder of Miles McEnery Gallery, New York.

“We were thrilled to make our Art Show debut as new members of the ADAA, and to have the opportunity to introduce the work of Stephanie Syjuco and Marie Watt to the fair’s audience. We had excellent conversations with curators and connected with a wider network of East Coast museums and institutions. Above all, we were honored to exhibit alongside our esteemed colleagues, and we deeply value the collegiality of those relationships and our gallery community, a core value of the ADAA.”
— Anton Stuebner, Partner and Director at Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco.

“We had a great time at The Art Show. It was a wonderful opportunity to exhibit a pairing of two Asian artists who left their countries for New York in the ’60s. We were able to introduce some rarely seen works to the public. With the recent and upcoming opening of major institutional shows such as “Only the Young” at the Guggenheim, “Lineages” at the Met, “Shape of Time” at the Philadelphia Museum, and the opening of the Smithsonian Asian Art Museum, it felt timely to give the audience at The Art Show a very focused look at the work of Kim Tschang-Yeul and Minoru Niizuma”
— Tina Kim, Founder of Tina Kim Gallery, New York.

“This was our first year exhibiting at The Art Show and it’s been a great experience. We’ve enjoyed the pace of the fair and the response to Arvie Smith has been exceptional. We’re thrilled to have made an institutional placement for Arvie, who hasn’t shown in New York since 1992, in addition to placements in new private collections.”
— Alyssa Brubaker, Director at moniquemeloche, Chicago.

“For our inaugural participation at ADAA The Art Show, we presented new paintings by Düsseldorf-based artist Lenz Geerk. We found the energy of the fair to be dynamic and enjoyed time with curators and collectors discussing art on a deeper level.”
— Bennett Roberts, Founder of Roberts Projects, Los Angeles.
About Henry Street Settlement
Founded in 1893 by social reformer Lillian Wald and based in Manhattan's Lower East Side, Henry Street Settlement delivers a wide range of innovative, high-impact social service, arts, and health care programs. From shelter for the homeless and job placement to early childhood education and college prep to meals and companionship for older adults, Henry Street operates nearly 60 programs that provide vital services to New Yorkers in need. A central component of its commitment to human progress and opportunity is Henry Street's award-winning Abrons Arts Center, which provides artists with performance, exhibition, and residency opportunities and promotes access to the arts through educational programming. www.henrystreet.org

About the ADAA
The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) is a nonprofit membership organization that supports the economic and cultural contributions of the nation's leading fine art galleries. The ADAA includes over 200 members from nearly 40 cities in the U.S., representing hundreds of established and emerging artists internationally. ADAA members have extensive expertise across primary and secondary markets and established reputations for upholding the best practices in the field. The ADAA serves as a resource and advocate, raising awareness of dealers’ critical roles in the international art market and the cultural community. The ADAA is a leader on issues pertaining to connoisseurship, scholarship, ethical practice, and public policy. The ADAA Foundation, a distinct but connected entity to ADAA, primarily supported by donations from ADAA members, promotes a broad range of activity in the arts and culture community by distributing grants to museums and arts organizations with operating budgets under $5 million to advance art historical research and exhibition development. The Foundation’s 2022 grantees were: the Cranbrook Art Museum, The Drawing Center, and the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art. www.artdealers.org

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