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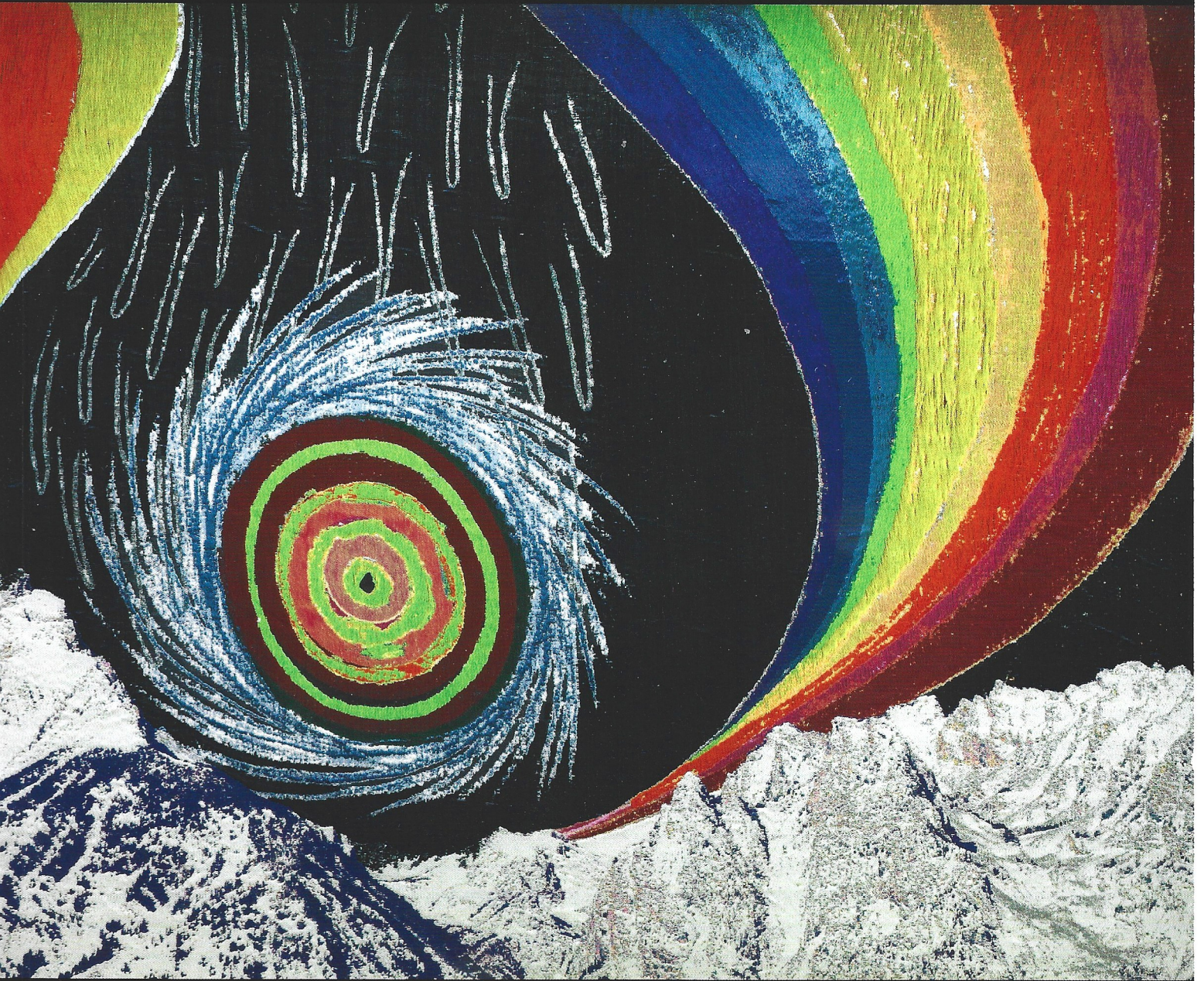


EXHIBIT CURATED BY

BETTY LEVIN

President, Corporate Art Directions

COVER

LIZ COLLINS

Rainbow Mountains: Storm, 2024

Woven textile

120 x 154 inches

Courtesy of the ARTIST and CANDICE MADEY

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*Art gives meaning to our lives and
helps us understand our world.*

– Norman Foster

HEARST TOWER . 300 WEST 57TH STREET . NEW YORK

The Power of Art

Art has no rules. It can make you surprised or perplexed or thrilled. It can open dialogue, evoke emotion and challenge paradigms. Hearst has sponsored the ART NOW show in our Hearst Tower Galleries for almost a decade. This special showing of working artists has extended the Hearst community's ongoing exploration and appreciation of new thoughts, new visions, new realities.

As Gil Maurer once said, "These exhibits are a tribute to the solitary and fearless souls who face down blankness, answer only to themselves and create something that pleases themselves first and foremost. Whatever their hesitations or doubts, however great the challenges they face, artists make a move. We may not always appreciate the results—taste still applies—but there is no denying the result and the bravery involved. And that is, perhaps, what's most inspiring of all."

Art can push boundaries and challenge norms. It keeps changing, evolving and creating a rich tapestry of introspection and inclusion. Art is the creative catalyst that has the potential to spark conversations and provoke innovation to shape our world.

Steven Swartz

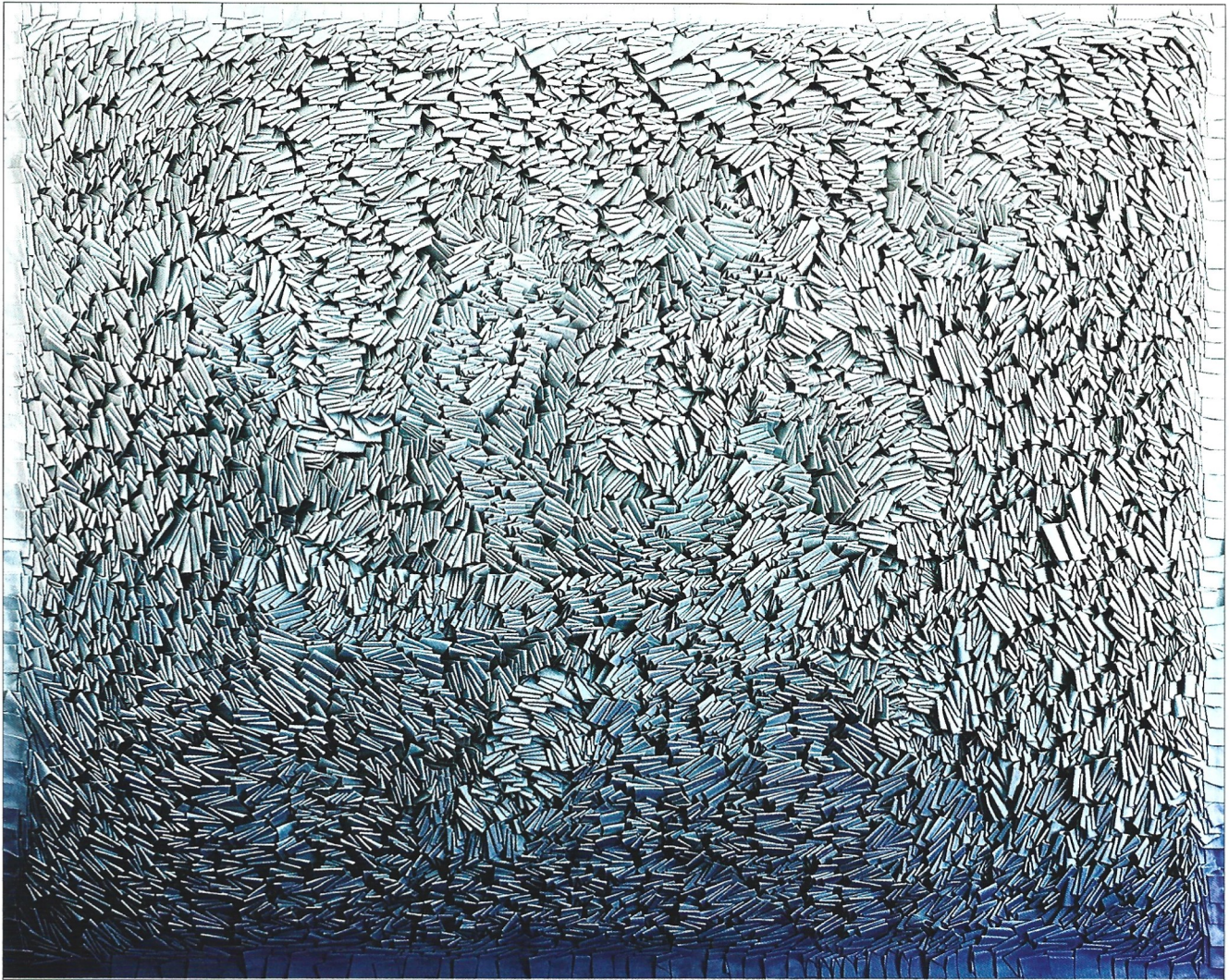
President & Chief Executive Officer, Hearst

Frank Bennack

Executive Vice Chairman & Former CEO, Hearst

Gilbert Maurer

Director and Former COO, Hearst



RODRIGO FRANZÃO

Bayou Serenade, 2024

Acrylic resin on German eco-friendly paper, 365g,
infused in latex, mounted on canvas

48 x 60 x 1.5 inches

Courtesy of AI BO GALLERY

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RODRIGO FRANZÃO is a Brazilian artist who focuses on creating textile art and mixed media. Using fabrics, acrylic paint and eco-friendly paper, he emphasizes his commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. His exhibitions worldwide encourage viewers to contemplate universal themes such as life, society and the interconnectedness of opposing elements through his unique artistic expression.

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HASHTAG [00100011] is a mixed-media conceptual artist and fine art photographer based in New York City and the Hudson Valley. Working across mediums and anonymously, HASHTAG confronts contemporary political and social issues, oftentimes catching the viewer in the penetrating glare of commentary. The irony of book banning in our democracy is that it is the true subversion of the Constitution, and the First Amendment right to freedom of speech. Not fake news: the banning of books is alive and well in America, and communities are up in arms on both sides of this culture war. With this mixed media installation, HASHTAG celebrates the persecuted and hoists the knocked-about works of literature onto a pedestal, keeping them in view forevermore.

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CHARLES HASCOËT is a Paris-born artist who has a unique artistic style that blends personal experiences with references to art history and popular culture. His work explores themes of nostalgia and self-discovery, intertwining domestic still lifes, romantic portraits and dreamlike landscapes.

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JOHN HOUCK, based in Los Angeles, is a multi-disciplinary artist interested in psychoanalytic theories of memory and the mind. These themes permeate both subject matter and process in his photography-based work. Central to Houck's work is how shadows serve as signatures of both the condition and the limits of our experience. Houck recasts the shadow as a hinge of illusion and illumination, as the point at which what is real overlaps with what we can know and what we can imagine.

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SANGBIN IM is a Korean artist known for his vibrant composite photographs, each made up of hundreds of images taken over a series of days and embedded with painted surfaces. A key element of IM's work is a consideration of technology's growing importance in the modern age. Bridging the relationship between fantasy and reality, IM's work frequently begins with the subject of an urban environment. His composite recreations of famous tourist destinations and cultural places around the world explore the way these sites have become global spaces, instantly recognizable and unrecognizable at the same time.

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KATHY HOWARD JACOBSON is a New York-based photographer. Her work is largely comprised of street photography, photojournalism, portraiture, and most recently, abstracts, or what she refers to as "The beauty in details unseen." Her images of urban walls are an artistic record of social/political and cultural issues. Her photographs of peeled posters reveal beauty and romance from that which is decomposed, conflict and revolt, sadness, isolation and her love of pure abstraction.

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YIRUI JIA was born in China and lives in New York. Within Jia's work resides a cast of characters, many of whom are derived from popular culture and cartoon influences to anthropomorphic objects and animals. Each character has its own complex identity within the childlike worlds in which they are portrayed, empowered by the reinvention of the ordinary. Jia is inspired by daily life—the personal and shared experiences, "the undifferentiated universality of objects," and most importantly, the humor of it all.

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CHRIS JONES is a British artist known for his innovative use of paper and found materials to create intricate, large-scale works, mostly sculptures. Jones's work mimics the way in which we assimilate and process the world using our own personal histories and memories as a base to develop new connections. The use of paper as his primary medium also reflects a fascination with the fragility of objects and images in the digital age, where printed media is increasingly fleeting.

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JASON BOYD KINSELLA is a Canadian-born artist known for his striking, geometric portraits that merge abstraction with realism. Instead of traditional portraiture, he uses bold, angular shapes to break down the subject into distinct planes. Unveiling mankind's psychological makeup lies at the heart of his practice. In his work, he breaks down the personality traits of his characters into distinct geometric units, defining their individuality based on the Myers-Briggs personality attributes.

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DAPPER BRUCE LAFITTE (formerly Bruce Davenports Jr.) is a self-trained New Orleans based artist who began making and showing work in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. His work carries social commentary, reflecting on the challenges faced by New Orleans residents in the aftermath of Katrina and the broader social and economic inequalities present in his community. His vibrant, detailed drawings also celebrate the city's rich culture, especially its marching bands which were devastated by the hurricane. He renamed himself "Dapper Bruce Lafitte" as a way to honor his family's legacy and his own evolution as an artist.

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GILBERT C. MAURER comes from a distinguished family of artists. Generally, he makes quick gestural drawings with a very fine .001 Micron pen on heavy textured watercolor paper. His subjects vary from architectural studies to landscapes and the people around him. His preferred medium is watercolors which perfectly suit his needs for dispatch and portability. He then either paints on the spot or finishes back in his studio. Gil's paintings bring together his passions for art and communication.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to:

Steve Swartz, an active advocate for the arts across Hearst, who pushes the boundaries beyond the ordinary.

Frank Bennack, who has always encouraged the conversations and facilitated the Tower exhibits that prompted them.

Gil Maurer, who has been the spirit of all the shows in the Norman Foster-designed Hearst Tower Galleries. These exhibits have educated, inspired and delighted the Hearst community and visitors to the Tower. Gil's passion for art and communication has transformed The Hearst Tower Galleries into a space that sparks creativity and innovation.

Betty Levin, who, in her role as art consultant for Hearst, has curated the ART NOW exhibits for the past decade.

Michele Mazzola, special projects editor, who designed the catalogue for this show. The catalogues for the gallery exhibitions have made a significant addition to the popularity of the shows.

Alex Carlin, Paul Luthringer and Khary Simon. Hearst is lucky to have such a talented team leading the creative conversation of the company.

Richard Krasner and Patrina Marino, the team who expertly and innovatively produced this catalogue.

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