

The visual landscape — some finer points

Keeping up with art in the Bay Area and beyond is no easy matter, but I'm here to help sort through it all. Consider this new, biweekly column as a middle territory between the items that work on Twitter (I share them @Art-guy1) and the reviews and reports that need lots of room. It's a place where I will share thoughts on significant exhibitions that can't be covered for lack of time or space; news

of the art world; my take on matters affecting artists, the market, museums and audiences.

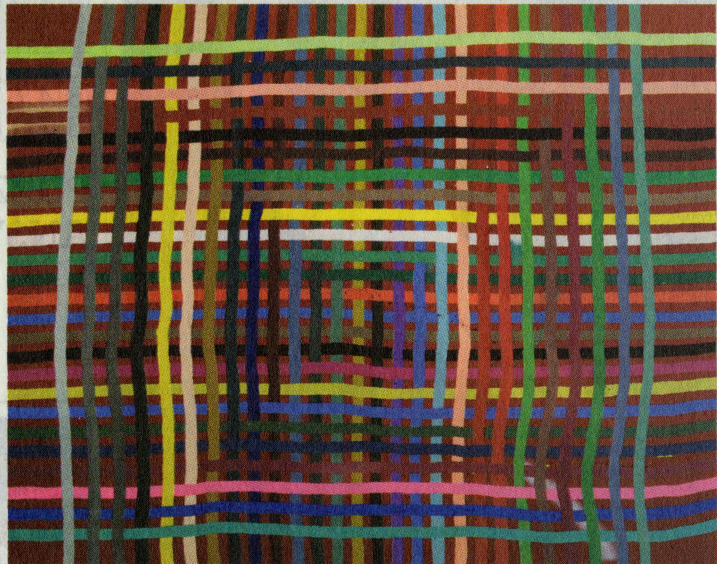
CHARLES
DESMARAIS

Art

Call this new format a draft, a work in progress. Please let me know what you think: what works, what

doesn't, what's missing. And I will need your help, so please share tips and thoughts via e-mail at cdesmarais@sfchronicle.com.

Art continues on E6



John Berggruen Gallery

Alicia McCarthy's untitled painting (2016) was shown at the John Berggruen Gallery booth at Fog Art Fair.

VISUAL ART

The S.F. visual art landscape in detail

Art from page E1

Gallery news: The venerable **John Berggruen Gallery**, one of the pillars of San Francisco's visual art scene, could just rest on its laurels. Instead, John and Gretchen (partners in life and art) are doubling down, assembling a young team led by a dynamic, 29-year-old president, Sarah Wendell. At the recent **Fog Art Fair**, the gallery's booth was one of the freshest, with bright works by three up-to-the-minute artists, including witty takes by one of San Francisco's best current painters, Alicia McCarthy, only days old. And the exhibition now on view at the gallery, a survey of new abstract painting called "**Material Considerations**," fairly vibrates with energy. The gallery's plans to move south of Market Street are still on but (no surprise) delayed at least through July.

Other major Bay Area galleries experiencing growth spurts include **Rena Branstén Gallery**, which will be the anchor tenant at the new **Minnesota Street Project**, opening March 18; **Anglim Gilbert Gallery**, which recently announced plans to open a second space in the same Minnesota Street complex; and **Jeffrey Fraenkel Gallery**, opening a satellite called **FraenkelLAB** April 14 at 1632 Market St.

Leibovitz portraits: Photographer **Annie Leibovitz** has a deep connection to San Francisco, including a degree from the San Francisco Art Institute and, most recently, an award from the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. So it's fitting that our city will be the site for the U.S. premiere of her latest work. And she's creating her own pop-up

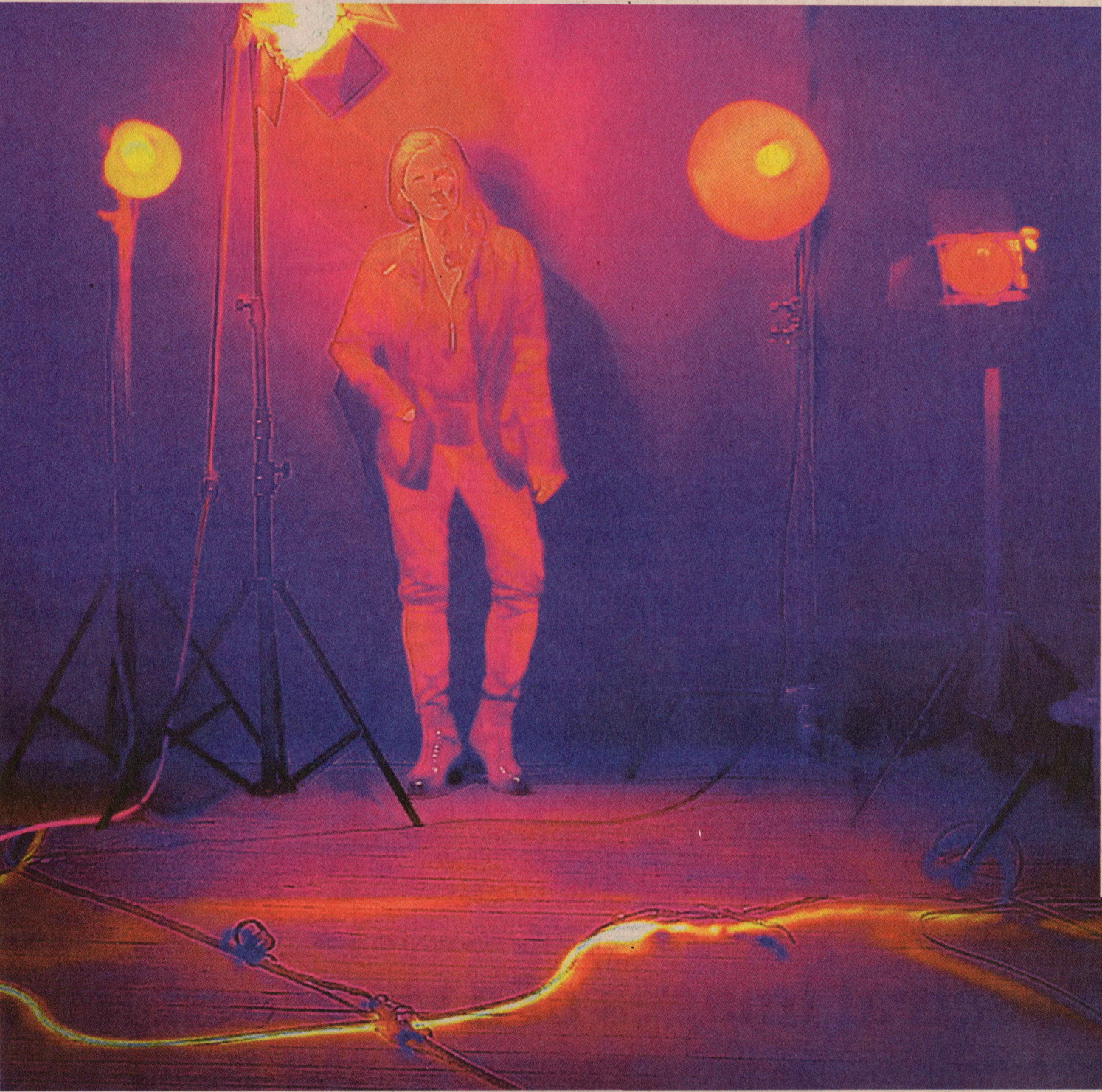
Bernard Barryte will retire from Stanford's Cantor Arts Center and work directly for collector Kirk Edward Long.

museum to present it. With sponsorship support from the international bank UBS, "Women: New Portraits" will show March 25-April 17 in one of the old hangars at **Crissy Field** (649 Old Mason St., S.F.), as part of a global tour to 10 cities in 12 months. The exhibition will feature hundreds (!) of images of notable women, from classic leaders like Gloria Steinem and Alice Waters to such new heroes as dancer Misty Copeland and filmmaker Laura Poitras. Admission will be free.

Tough ticket: With just 96 tickets available per week, tours of San Francisco's only historic artist's home, the **David Ireland House**, have sold out every day since the opening in January, according to a spokeswoman. The earliest reservation available (required: (415) 986-1571 or <http://500cappstreet.org/visit>) is April 15, and reservations are being taken through Aug. 20.

Cardboard stand-ins: On a tour in preparation for SFMOMA's reopening-year schedule announcement, an arrangement of Joel Shapiro's slightly-larger-than-life-size "abstract" sculptures that remind everyone of stick-figure humans drew my attention. But they looked a little off. On closer inspection, they proved to be not bronze sculpture, but well-constructed cardboard copies — full-scale maquettes of the actual works — that presumably are easily moved around. (I wish I could share a picture, but the museum said no — I guess they want us to think this stuff is magic.)

Curator moves on, but not too far: Bernard Barryte has worked for 13 years as adviser



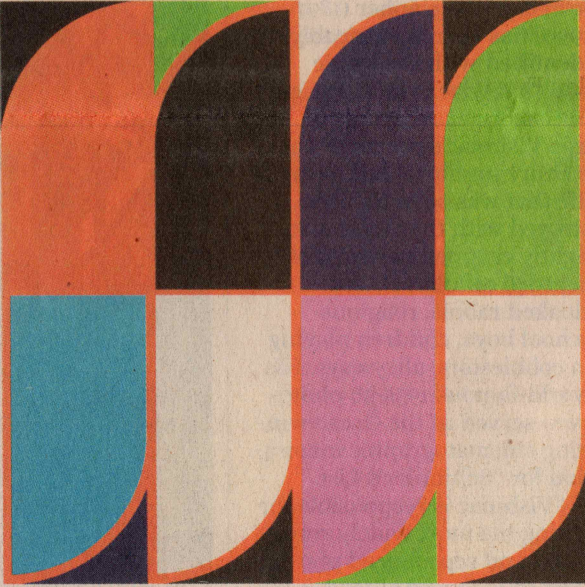
Annie Leibovitz

"Laura Poitras" (2015) from the exhibition "Women: New Portraits by Annie Leibovitz."



Annie Leibovitz

"Misty Copeland" (2015) from the Annie Leibovitz exhibition.



John Berggruen Gallery

Sarah Morris' "Red Jardim Botânico [Rio]" (2015) is part of the current exhibition at John Berggruen Gallery, "Material Considerations."



John Berggruen Gallery

Sarah Wendell, recently appointed president of the John Berggruen Gallery.

to collector Kirk Edward Long to put together a 700-work assemblage of Mannerist prints, the subject of a superb exhibition at Stanford's **Cantor Arts Center**, where Barryte has been curator of European art since 1993. In the wake of the exhibition, he will continue his work with the collection, but not as an employee of the museum: He retires at the end of February, and will work directly for Long.

Last chances: The sumptuously irreligious and misogynistic recent paintings of Masami Teraoka at **Catharine Clark Gallery**, through Feb.



John Berggruen Gallery

An untitled painting by Julian Lethbridge (2015) is exhibited at John Berggruen Gallery.

20 ... an artistic Festschrift in honor of longtime gallerist Ruth Braunstein, a fixture on the San Francisco scene for 50 years, at **Fouladi Projects** through Feb. 27 ... **Anglim Gilbert Gallery's** touching tribute to David Ireland,

"Dumbball," through Feb. 27. "Royal Hawaiian Featherwork" at the **de Young**, which even L.A. contemporary art curator Paul Schimmel called "the rarest of sights — a culture at a pinnacle," was supposed to close Feb. 28; it is

now extended through April 10.

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