



## A R T O F C H O I C E

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*Art of Choice brings you a 'no-bullshit' approach to art. We believe in democratizing the art world, breaking down "art talk," and making art accessible to all. Enjoy reading!*

With our bi-monthly newsletter, we give you our **Art of Choice:** *choice* of exhibits currently on view, *choice* of highlights from fairs and other happenings, *choice* of original artist interviews, and more.

Each newsletter will highlight our *choice* from the pulse of the art world, featuring the hottest finds from artists at every stage in their careers.

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### ***Figures***

Introducing a new series of interviews featuring all of the collectors, curators, gallerists, and change-makers in the art industry who support the artists we love in so many ways, seen and unseen. In this newsletter, we are proud to feature our first *Figures* interviews with Brett Gorvy and Nazem Ahmad.

***Brett Gorvy***



Brett Gorvy became a household name in the art world for his uncanny success in building up the Contemporary Art department at Christie's Auction House. When Gorvy joined on in the early 90s, Contemporary Art was the sixth-highest earning division of art. Over time, Brett would lead the way for the department to become the highest-earning at Christie's, far surpassing other departments and setting countless auction records along the way. Gorvy's most recent career move to run Lévy Gorvy alongside of Dominique Levy has invited a new chapter of executing landmark exhibitions and continuing to build legacies around the artwork he loves.

Read our full conversation with Gorvy [here](#).

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***Nazem Ahmad***



We have long swooned over Nazem Ahmad's art collection from a distance. Full of household names of some of the most prolific Modern and Contemporary artists, such as Richard Prince, Yoshimoto Nara, George Condo, KAWS, Basquiat, and Robert Indiana, Ahmad has been building his collection for close to 30 years. Also providing daily entertainment is Ahmad's Instagram, which serves as inspiration to our art obsessed minds. Here, we talk to Ahmad about his relationship with collecting.

Read our full conversation with Ahmad [here](#).

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## *Interview*

This week we interviewed **JEREMY OLSON**.

Jeremy Olson's paintings combine the worlds of surrealism and fantasy. He constructs peculiar characters that have recognizable human traits, such as hair or teeth, to give the viewer an access point into the scene. In his work, Olson tries to capture certain universal emotions that we can all relate to, presenting them in such a way that is unfamiliar yet appealing. Olson is based out of Brooklyn, NY.

**Your work contains an interesting visual experience – qualities that seem familiar share the same surface as surreal elements. Can you speak about this balance and what feelings you are trying to encapsulate?**

I want the work to be a kind of encounter, both for myself and the viewer. The feelings I'm trying to get at are complicated ones, related to both desire and anxiety, nostalgia and failure, all that Freudian stuff. Most of the figures or objects have anthropomorphic qualities and often blend between categories.

If nothing is familiar or recognizable and it's just pure fantasy, that's not so interesting to me. But if there's a sense that I know where it begins but it's slipping into something I can't quite locate, then there's a possibility for discovery.

Read our full conversation with Olson [here](#).





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## *Upcoming*

Los Angeles is about to experience what might arguably be it's biggest art week yet. In just about one week, Frieze and Felix will debut inaugural fairs. Paramount Studios will host Frieze and Hotel Roosevelt will host Felix, drawing different crowds, but in our opinion equally important.

We are so excited to share with you our highlights from the fairs and reviews of shows from this busy week to come. Stayed tuned!



[Frieze](#) and [Felix](#) visitor information can be found here.

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## *Artist*

In every newsletter we feature one artist we are crushing on and highlight why we are such fans of their work. This newsletter features **Al Freeman**.

***AL FREEMAN***



Known for her soft sculptures, Al Freeman makes each work from a pleather form loosely stuffed with polyester filler. Various depicting everyday objects, the works exaggerate items typically associated with masculine household settings. The sculptures drain objects of their virility and invest them with humor, replacing rigid geometries with flaccid forms. Taken together, the works assemble a doughy vision of familiar, and often toxic, domestic scenes.

Al Freeman (b. 1981, Toronto) lives and works in New York. She received her B.F.A. from Concordia University in 2005, and her M.F.A. from the Yale University School of Art in 2010. Her work has been featured in numerous group presentations both stateside and abroad.





*Images and text courtesy of 56 Henry.*

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## ***Nude of the Week***

A new Art of Choice feature, *Nude of the Week*, will highlight an artist portraying the naked human body in a way that is both beautiful and contemporary. This feature will also live on our [Instagram](#), so be on the look out for your weekly nude! #SendNudes

This week's nude is by **John Currin**.



### ***JOHN CURRIN***

American painter John Currin intertwines the beautiful and grotesque with equal measure in his caricatures of lusty, doe-eyed female figures often portrayed in gross proportions that both enchant and repel. Drawing on a broad range of cultural influences from Renaissance oil paintings to 1950s women's magazine ads and contemporary politics, his work is notable for its mix of technical virtuosity with mash-ups of high and low culture.

*Image rights: Photo by Douglas M. Parker Studio. Courtesy the Artist and Gagosian Gallery.*

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