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# INPPRSPECTIVE 

## Art-world news and market updates, exhibitions and events.

## O My America!

FROM MAY 14-17, the American Art Fair will be held at the Bohemian National Hall on Manhattan's Upper East Side, opening spring American Art Week in New York. Founded in 2008, the fair is the only one currently being produced that is dedicated to 19th- and 20th-century American art-from the Hudson River School to the Tonalists, American Impressionists, Ashcan School, modernists, and Surrealists. The fair's founder, Tom Colville, says, "In our 15 th year, we are broadening the scope of the Fair to include specialists in Latin American and Mexican art as well as American Surrealism. Last year, we decided to permanently move the Fair's dates to May, opening the spring American Art Week coordinated with the American art auctions as well as museum and gallery exhibi-

tions. We hope to awaken both rediscovery and personal interactions through attendance at live art fairs."

This year, 17 specialist dealers will exhibit 400 works including landscapes, portraits, and still lifes. Five of them are new to the fair: Francis M. Naumann Fine Art, Graham


Shay 1857, Keny Galleries, Mary-Anne Martin Fine Art, and Somerville Manning Gallery. Among the 19 th-century works on offer will be Albert Bierstadt's Mount Baker, Washington (1891), a majestic yet soothing autumnal view of the snow-capped peak foregrounded by red-gold trees, brought by Questroyal Fine Art. Hirschl \& Adler Galleries will have on hand Childe Hassam's 1892 New York


Street Scene (Rainy Day, New York), a watercolor, gouache, and charcoal study of the city in the horse-and-carriage era. Among the early modernists, Stuart Davis' oil on canvas Egg Beater (1923) will appear at the booth of Alexandre Gallery, while some more Davises will be on view at Bernard Goldberg's. Avery Galleries will display Arthur B. Carles' Flowers in a Yellow Vase (1922), an astonishing still life with an almost stained-glass intensity.

Meredith Ward will be showing Charles Biederman's \#27 (1936), a biomorphic abstraction incorporating the artist's characteristic three-

dimensional contour effect. Forum Gallery will be showing works by Raphael Soyer, such as his arresting full-face portrait of a woman, Gitel (1933). Among the Latin American works on view will be Los Alfareros (1931), a conté crayon and pastel drawing on newsprint by the Mexican painter, muralist, and art teacher Alfredo Ramos Martinez. It depicts Mexican rural workers in a streamlined and simplified modernist style. Among the more recent works at the fair, Francis Naumann will present Ray Johnson's nearly abstract Steps (1958), and Somerville Manning will offer Andrew Wyeth's Grindstone (1981), an astringent rural vignette.

In addition to the artworks on view, there will also be a series of lectures at the American Art Fair, including one of the Transcendental Painting Group of New Mexico by Susan Aberth and one on Milton Avery by Erin Monroe.

