

## New York Academy of Art Opens Two Major Exhibitions in January *Collectouples* and *Eye to Eye: Untraditional Voices*

*Collectouples: Works from the private collections of Julia Chiang & KAWS, Rachel Feinstein & John Currin, April Gornik & Eric Fischl and Mickalene Thomas & Racquel Chevremont*  
January 28 - March 8, 2020

*Eye to Eye: Untraditional Voices*  
January 21 – February 23, 2020

Opening reception: Tuesday, January 28, 6-8 pm

New York Academy of Art  
111 Franklin Street, New York, NY 10013  
[www.nyaa.edu](http://www.nyaa.edu)

**Media Inquiries:** Angharad Coates  
acoates@nyaa.edu  
212 842 5975

The New York Academy of Art is pleased to announce two major exhibitions opening this January celebrating the passions and personal tastes of a diverse group of art collectors. For *Collectouples: Works from the private collections of Julia Chiang & KAWS, Rachel Feinstein & John Currin, April Gornik & Eric Fischl and Mickalene Thomas & Racquel Chevremont*, the Academy partnered with four art star couples to exhibit personal selections from their art collections. *Eye to Eye: Untraditional Voices*, created in partnership with collector John L. Thomson, pairs works by major contemporary artists in Thomson's collection with works from current Academy MFA students, plucked directly from the studio by Thomson. There will be an opening reception for both exhibitions on Tuesday, January 28 at the Academy in Tribeca.

The four artist couples spotlighted in *Collectouples*, all longtime friends and supporters of the Academy, were given free rein to exhibit what they wanted, and the four groupings give remarkable insight as to how artists collect and live with art. Eric Fischl and April Gornik will present a selection of works which includes not only major pieces by Auguste Rodin, Alice Neel and Francesco Clemente, but also a drawing specially made for them by Eric's longtime assistant, a painter named Catherine Tafur. Mickalene Thomas and Racquel Chevremont are lending two pieces, including a work by their close friend Derrick Adams, while the selection by KAWS and Julia Chiang features one of many paintings by Peter Saul that the couple own, as well as three works by the self-taught New Zealand painter Susan Te Kahurangi King. Currin and Feinstein have chosen to exhibit a piece by 17th century Dutch painter Willem van de Velde the Younger, which Currin acquired specifically because he had grown up in a house with a van de Velde reproduction print. *Collectouples* will be on view January 28 through March 8, and the exhibition is sponsored by AXA XL, Cadogan Tate and 108 Leonard.

Similarly, *Eye to Eye: Untraditional Voices* explores how an artist might fall in love with another artist's work. This fall, collector John L. Thomson toured the studios at the Academy and selected eleven works by second-year MFA students. Thomson, who serves on the board of trustees of MoMA PS1 and on the Modern Women's Council of the Museum of Modern Art, has over 100 works in his home, and each student artist was invited to roam through and choose a piece from his extensive contemporary art collection to present alongside their own. *Eye to Eye: Untraditional Voices* thus exhibits pieces from the student artists side by side such masters as Peter Saul, Robin Williams, Dana Schutz, Red Grooms, Natalie Frank and Larry Rivers, in a dialogue about artistic influence and comparative value in the contemporary art world. This marks the second edition of *Eye to Eye* mounted at the Academy; in 2016 the collector Laura Skoler initiated the exhibition concept with eight student artists and works from her contemporary art collection. *Eye to Eye: Untraditional Voices* will be on view through February 23.



@nyacademyofart



@nyacademyofart



/newyorkacademyofart

**About New York Academy of Art**

Founded in 1982 by artists, scholars and patrons of the arts, including Andy Warhol, the New York Academy of Art is nonprofit cultural and educational institution that combines intensive technical training in the fine arts with active critical discourse. The Academy believes that rigorously trained artists are best able to realize their artistic vision and Academy students are taught traditional methods and techniques and encouraged to use these skills to make vital contemporary art. Through major exhibitions, a lively speaker series, and an ambitious educational program, the Academy serves as a creative and intellectual center for all artists dedicated to highly skilled, conceptually aware figurative and representational art.



@nyacademyofart



@nyacademyofart



/newyorkacademyofart