



Dear Students,

It was so exciting to have an opening of your work this week. Tribeca Ball Online is off to a great start. As soon as it went up, I started hearing from people all over the country. People who normally wouldn't have been able to participate in the event itself. I think we're on to something. 37 works sold this week.

I'm looking forward to the next wave. If you can, send in a quick, one minute (max) selfie saying who you are and what your work is about. Collectors like to know a bit about the artists they are supporting. A personal story can be the thing that turns a viewer into a buyer.

I'm also excited about the visiting critics being added to the schedule. As you probably read in the Artnet News article today, artists like John Currin, Rachel Feinstein and Mickalene Thomas have accepted our invitation to critique and there's several more in the offing. We've also got commitments from a group of gallerists to do portfolio reviews this summer. They include prestigious galleries like PPOW, Winston Wachter, Postmasters, and 1969 Gallery.

#### News of the week

- Subject to CDC guidelines, Commencement will take place in person after Thesis II final critiques. The date is still TBD.
- The Opening Reception for the Thesis Exhibition will take place on the last day of Thesis II Final Critiques.
- Dexter Wemberly is doing webinar on the theme of cultivating art world relationships on 4/16.
- Open Model session again tonight. 6pm - 9pm (staff, faculty, students, alumni, invited.)
- The Academy is creating a Quarantine Forum. We want to hear from our community. What has helped you stay centered and channel your creativity? Add your story here.
- Here are two grant applications that may be worth considering:
- A newly established artist's relief fund for \$5,000 grants: <https://www.artistrelief.org>
- [Collector Paige West's LIFTS application for COVID-19 relief](#).

Some of you have asked what would happen if we weren't able to reopen the studios this summer. All I can say is we are fully intending to -- and we'd be very disappointed if we couldn't -- but safety comes first. As Dr. Fauci says, the virus will tell us when it's OK. We will continue to evaluate the circumstances.

I'll end by saying again how much I enjoyed the virtual studio visits I had last week. There's nothing I like more than seeing your work. I'll be available for sign up next week. I hope to see you then.

Have a good weekend,

David

David Kratz  
President  
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