

LA Art Show Will Celebrate 20th Anniversary Jan. 15–18

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. — The LA Art Show, the 200,000-square-foot art fair that welcomed more than 50,000 art enthusiasts to the Los Angeles Convention Center last year, will celebrate its 20th anniversary January 15–18.

Founded in 1994, the show has grown from a small regional event featuring 14 galleries to become the largest and longest running platform for fine art, bringing in more than 120 galleries representing 22 countries. Looking back on the 20-year history of the LA Art Show, one cannot help noticing how it has evolved, changing locations and growing in diversity to reflect the trajectory of the burgeoning Los Angeles art scene.

In a major departure from art fairs of the time, the LA Art Show strategically incorporated galleries representing diverse art genres, broadening its audiences to include enthusiasts of Modern, contemporary, historic and traditional works, as well as works on paper, sculpture and installations, in one art fair. This show format was specifically selected to meet the needs of the LA market.

In recent years, the LA Art Show has become a quite internationally diverse art platform in the Western world, bringing in large groupings of Korean, Chinese and Japanese galleries outside of Asia. Beginning in 2010, the LA Art Show has actively developed its international gallery offerings to provide collectors with an opportunity to spot international trends and zeitgeist through art.

"The art and artists that have been featured at the LA Art Show have been exceptional over the years," said LA Art Show Producer Kim Martindale. "I feel that the breadth and quality of the art has sometimes gone under the radar because of the grand scale of our event. We've had more than a dozen



Rehs Galleries will show Guy Combes' "The Hinterlands," oil on canvas, 12 by 28 inches.



Thomas French will feature Georges Rouault's "Qui ne se grime pas," 1848, aquatint.

Venice Biennale artists exhibit their works at our show, as well as artists that have exhibited at major museums such as the Met and LACMA."

The LA Art Show was founded in 1994, with Martindale as general manager, to create a platform to showcase American Regionalism and historic works. The show has outgrown three venues before finding its current home at the Los Angeles Convention Center six years ago.

It was the first major art event to take place at the Convention Center and, though its move was initially met with skepticism by the arts community, has

ultimately become an anchor event that has bolstered other events in the downtown area such as downtown art walks, the resurgence of Chung King Road and the Downtown Arts District.

The 20th anniversary edition of the LA Art Show kicks off with an opening night premiere party on Wednesday, January 14, and is open to all January 15–18. General admission is \$20. The LA Art Show takes place at the Los Angeles Convention Center, South Hall, 1201 South Figueroa Street.

For additional information, www.laartshow.com or 561-822-5440.