

BERGGRUEN

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SERIAL IMAGERY Portfolios & Prints in Sets

June 15 – July 22, 2023

Berggruen Gallery is proud to announce *Serial Imagery: Portfolios & Prints in Sets*, an exhibition of etchings and intaglios, pochoirs, lithographs, screenprints, and woodblock prints. *Serial Imagery: Portfolios & Prints in Sets* will be on view from June 15 through July 22, 2023. The gallery will host an opening reception on Thursday, June 15, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

Throughout history, artists have created work in series, producing collections of images, repetitive forms, and cohesive graphic languages. In the last century, the practice of creating serial prints witnessed an extraordinary surge as visionaries from the conceptual and pop art movements embraced the sequential format, propelling it to newfound prominence and cultural relevancy. This exhibition will explore the compelling methodologies in which artists employ printmaking techniques to communicate unconventional concepts and push the boundaries of their chosen medium. Whether it involves utilizing multiple prints to convey a progressive narrative or extending the subject across multiple sheets, this presentation delves into the possibilities of sequential printmaking.

The artworks showcased in *Serial Imagery: Portfolios & Prints in Sets* were created with a diverse range of techniques and hybrid processes, including pochoir, etching and intaglio, lithography, screenprinting, and woodcut. The exhibition is grounded by the complete sets of Henri Matisse's groundbreaking *Jazz* from 1947, a portfolio of twenty colorful pochoirs from the artist's cut-out series, and Wayne Thiebaud's canonical *Delights* from 1964, a suite of seventeen intimate etchings of confections and foods. *Serial Imagery* presents an array of contemporary approaches to serial production, demonstrating how seminal artists engaged and experimented with the tradition of printmaking. It includes works by:

Nina Chanel Abney

Brice Marden

Odili Donald Odita

Polly Apfelbaum

Henri Matisse

Kiki Smith

John Baldessari

Julie Mehretu

Wayne Thiebaud

Charles Gaines

Robert Motherwell

Terry Winters

Artist Nina Chanel Abney's *CREW* displays sentimental portraits of friends and fellow creatives, employing bold shapes and vibrant hues to create iconic images that celebrate the significance of collective support. In *Heart and Soul*, a portfolio of nine woodblock prints, Polly Apfelbaum ventures beyond her customary use of primary and secondary colors, delving into freshly imagined color combinations to create modernist heart-shaped design patterns. In *Eight Soups*, John Baldessari utilizes serial repetition to play with the iconic imagery of Henri Matisse's 1912 painting, *Goldfish and Sculpture*, together with a nod to Andy Warhol's ubiquitous soup can series, creating a vibrant series of eight screenprints. *Serial Imagery* presents a diverse range of contemporary approaches to serial print production. Whether the focus is experimenting with shifting chromatic pairings, expanding upon a conceptual narrative, or subverting historical iconography, these portfolio and print sets denote an interest in transcending disciplinary boundaries imposed by the notion of singularity.

Additionally, the exhibition celebrates the important contribution of fine printing presses and publishers in the process of creating and distributing serial prints. Each of these presses played a critical role in the serialization of

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the artist's vision, from planning to execution. Prints in the exhibition were created at Crown Point Press, San Francisco; Durham Press, Durham, PA; Gemini G.E.L., Los Angeles; Paulson Fontaine Press, Berkeley; and Tériade, Paris; among others.

Serial Imagery: Portfolios & Prints in Sets, June 15 – July 22, 2023. On view at 10 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. Images and preview are available upon request. For all inquiries, please contact the gallery by phone at (415) 781-4629 or by email at info@berggruen.com.

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