

• **IRENE HOFMANN**

Hofmann arrived as SITE Santa Fe's director and chief curator in 2010 by way of the Contemporary Museum in Baltimore. This year she unveiled an ambitious revamp of the now-ubiquitous international biennial format, which was pioneered in the United States by SITE in 1995. Her brainchild, *SITELINES*, carries a theme of "Unsettled Landscapes" and consists of a trio of collaboratively curated exhibitions unfolding over six years that will use contemporary art to examine the intertwined histories of various cultures across North, Central, and South America.

• **ERIC LEROY**

As head of Artcurial's comics department, which he cofounded with François Tajan in 2005, Leroy shows how deep an apparent niche market can be. From 2011 to 2012, Leroy oversaw a leap of 82 percent in sales, for a take of nearly €12 million (\$15.2 million). In 2013 a February auction of drawings by Jean-Marc Reiser was 100 percent sold; in October, 30 works by the Belgian *Cités Obscures* creator François Schuiten, appearing at auction for the first time, raked in €558,299 (\$769,000). Leroy's marquee event, however, is the annual June sale devoted to the work of Hergé, creator of Tintin, for whom he achieved a record price of €1,338,600 (\$1.7 million) in June 2012—nothing funny about that.

• **TREVYN + JULIAN MCGOWAN**

The founders of Africa's sole collectible design gallery—the Johannesburg-based Southern Guild—are bringing global attention to the continent's burgeoning design scene. In 2013, Southern Guild brought works by African designers to Dubai, New York, Basel, and Miami and unveiled fresh talents in "Graphic Africa" during the London Design Festival in September.

• **EYAL OFER**

The son of the late Israeli shipping magnate and collector Sammy Ofer was not known for his art affinity until 2013, when he made a \$15 million donation to London's Tate Modern, where a wing now bears his name. Notoriously private, Ofer has never discussed the contents of his collection, but word is it's every bit as lavish as his \$6 billion net worth.

• **ALISON + MARK PINCUS**

The power couple (he, Zynga; she, One Kings Lane) have cherry-picked a contemporary collection that is turning heads toward the West Coast and reminding the world that Silicon Valley has the eye—and the wallet—for art. Alison sits on the board of San Francisco's Contemporary Jewish Museum and the duo provided funding for Leo Villareal's \$8 million Golden Gate Bridge installation.



• **ALEX POOTS**

If bigness has come to define much of the contemporary art scene this year, Alex Poots arrived at New York's Park Avenue Armory at just the right time. Hired as artistic director of the 55,000-square-foot drill hall in 2011, Poots, who retained his post as head of the biennial Manchester International Festival, has pushed the Armory to new heights in both scale and audacity, with headline-grabbers such as Paul McCarthy's NC-17 installation *WS*. Up next is Matthew Barney's six-hour rock opera film, *River of Fundament*.

• **SAARA PRITCHARD**

An associate specialist in postwar and contemporary art at Christie's New York, Pritchard showed her auction acumen this year when she spearheaded the highest-grossing First Open sales, bringing in \$32 million on a trio of events targeted at young collectors. To aid in cultivating the next generation, Pritchard, who joined the house in 2010, cofounded ArtSet, a contemporary arts membership circle that focuses on exposing young collectors to the London art scene.

• **JESSICA SILVERMAN**

Although San Francisco isn't exactly a market hub, dealer Silverman has built a reputation for her midcareer artists over the past six years by making herself a fixture at fairs. In 2013 she reported solid sales at NADA Miami, Art Basel Statements, Expo Chicago, the Armory Show, and the Dallas Art Fair, all of which allowed a move to a bigger, ground-floor space in the city's rapidly gentrifying Tenderloin district. Silverman now has four times her former square footage to show diverse works by Christopher Badger, Shannon Finley, and Israeli artist Amikam Toren, who made his U.S. debut there last month.



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