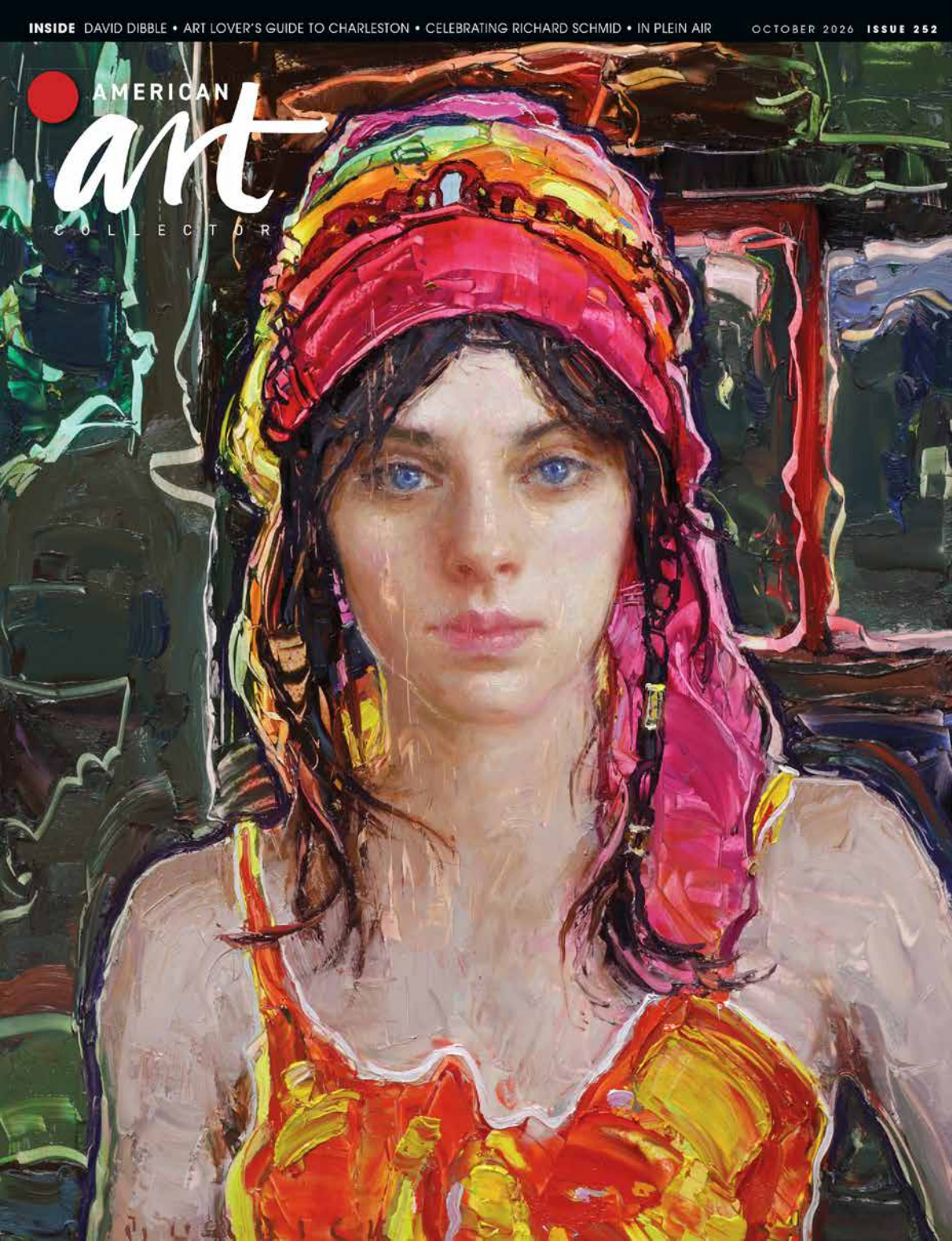


AMERICAN
art
COLLECTOR



YOUR GUIDE TO EXHIBITIONS, ART FAIRS &
SPECIAL EVENTS FROM COAST TO COAST

October 2026

October 1-4

Atlanta Art Fair
Pullman Yards
Atlanta, GA
www.theatlantaartfair.com

October 2-31

Anna Wypych & Andreas Claussen: Imaginative Realism
Principle Gallery
Charleston, SC • (843) 727-4500
www.principlegallery.com/charleston

October 2-31

Seasons of Joy
Susan Powell Fine Art
Madison, CT • (203) 318-0616
www.susanpowellfineart.com

Through October 3

**American Impressionist Society:
27th Annual National Juried
Exhibition**
Mockingbird Gallery
Bend, OR • (231) 881-7685
www.americanimpressionistsociety.org

October 3-11

**28th Annual Laguna Plein Air
Painting Invitational**
LPAPA Gallery
Laguna Beach, CA • (949) 376-3635
LPAPA.org

October 3, 2026-January 31, 2027

**Shifting Vision: Joel Babb's
Painted Universe**
Farnsworth Art Museum
Rockland, ME • (207) 596-6457
www.farnsworthmuseum.org

Through October 6

David Dornan & Douglas Fryer
Altamira Fine Art
Jackson Hole, WY • (307) 739-4700
www.altamiraart.com



Artist Richard Schmid with
model Paul Mullaly.

October 1-31

Celebrating Richard Schmid's Legacy
The Palette & Chisel Academy of Fine Arts
Chicago, IL » (312) 642-4400 • www.paletteandchisel.org

October 7-10

Chicago Art Fair
THE MART
Chicago, IL
www.chicagoartfair.com

October 7-10

Spectrum Chicago
THE MART
Chicago, IL
www.redwoodartgroup.com/spectrum-chicago/

Through October 9

Susan Grossman
George Billis Gallery
New York, NY • (917) 273-8621
www.georgebillis.com

October 9-18

**Mark Bowles & Ali Rouse:
The Gate to Heaven**
Canyon Road Contemporary
Santa Fe, NM • (505) 983-0433
www.canyoncontemporary.com

October 9-22

Jacob Pfeiffer: Inner Child
Meyer Gallery
Santa Fe, NM • (505) 983-1434
www.meyergalleries.com

Through October 10

**Kelly Birkenruth: The Beauty of
Sustenance**
Abend Gallery
Denver, CO • (303) 355-0950
www.abendgallery.com

Upper Echelon

The inaugural Chicago Art Fair brings together leading galleries from around the world in a showcase of museum-quality artwork.

By Sarah Gianelli

With multiple established annual events in New York, Miami and Santa Fe, Redwood Art Group is already one of the most prolific producers of contemporary art fairs in the country. This October, they are expanding their reach with the introduction of two brand new shows in Chicago.

The *Chicago Art Fair* and *Spectrum Chicago* will both take place at THE MART, the city's iconic hub of technology and design, from October 7 to 10, and a single ticket provides access to the two events.

With that said, they are entirely distinct shows.

"This October at THE MART, visitors will be treated to two very different fairs," says Eric Smith, founder and president of Redwood Art Group. "Simultaneously contrasting and complementary, the shows together offer a rich, dynamic experience for visitors."



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1
Cristina Mittermeier, *Girl with Blue Eyes and Dragonflies*, collage. Courtesy Hilton Contemporary, Chicago, IL.

2
Chicago Art Fair and Spectrum Chicago will take place on the seventh floor of THE MART, a sprawling business and event space in the heart of downtown Chicago.

3
Roger Brown (1941-1997), *Blue Flag And Gold Sky*, ca. 1981, oil on canvas, 48 x 72 in., titled verso. Courtesy Vallarino Fine Art, New York, NY.

4
Jennybird Alcantara, *The Darling of Slumber*, oil on wood, 34 x 48 in. Courtesy Haven Gallery, Northport, NY.



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Spectrum Chicago is a platform for emerging and independent artists, while the *Chicago Art Fair* is a showcase reserved solely for an elite roster of galleries from around the world. The inaugural event will bring together 62 local, national and international galleries presenting museum-quality modern and contemporary paintings, sculpture, photography, mixed media and more across more than 70,000 square feet of exhibition space. With participation limited strictly to vetted galleries specializing in fine art, the event has been curated with a focus on quality, collector engagement and business development opportunities.

"There are many reasons we chose to create the *Chicago Art Fair*, including accessibility to the Midwest market and collectors," explains Smith. "The timing in the fall season is great, and our partnership with THE MART offers very affordable booth spaces for the galleries. With all those factors aligned, we hired [gallery owner] George Billis as exhibition manager, and we look forward to a fantastic event."

Exhibiting galleries include Vallarino Fine Art, Haven Gallery, Carousel Fine Art, Hilton Contemporary, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, Jerald Melberg Fine Art, Echo Fine Arts, Hilton Contemporary, McCormick Gallery, Melissa Morgan Fine Art and Verse Gallery, to name just a few.

At the *Chicago Art Fair* you'll find works by innovative sculptor Alexander Calder (1898-1976) and modernist painter Milton Avery (1885-1965), as well as stunning pieces by established contemporary artists



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5
Don Eddy, *Empty Places II*, 2025, acrylic on panel, 16 x 20 in. Courtesy Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York, NY.

6
Wolf Kahn (1927-2020), *The Big Maple*, 1973, oil on canvas, 30 x 42 in. Courtesy Jerald Melberg Gallery, Charlotte, NC.

7
Tamara de Lempicka (1894-1980), *Adam and Eve*, serigraph, limited ed. of 195, 45½ x 28¾ in. Courtesy DK Modern Art, West Hollywood, CA.

8
Eric Alfaro, *Light and Love*, 2026, acrylic on linen, 78 x 78 in. Courtesy Carousel Fine Art with locations in Chicago, Miami, Atlanta and West Palm Beach, FL.



8

such as Eric Alfaro, Jennybird Alcantara, Cristina Mittermeier and Don Eddy, offering visitors the opportunity to discover a diverse range of artwork across a variety of styles, media and price points.

"Chicago has long been home to an extraordinary community of artists, galleries, collectors and cultural institutions," says Billis. "The *Chicago Art Fair* is designed to build on that foundation by creating an accessible, welcoming environ-

ment where meaningful connections can happen between galleries, collectors and the broader creative community. We're proud to introduce this new annual destination celebrating incredible talent and bringing the world to Chicago."

The *Chicago Art Fair* kicks off with an Opening Night Preview on Wednesday, October 7 from 5 to 8 p.m. Public fair hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, October 8 and Friday, October 9; and from 11 a.m. to

6 p.m. on Saturday, October 10. For ticket information visit www.chicagoartfair.com. See our coverage of *Spectrum Chicago* on the following page. ●

CHICAGO ART FAIR

October 7-10, 2026

THE MART

222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza, Chicago, IL 60654
www.chicagoartfair.com

The Next Generation

Spectrum Chicago brings fresh perspectives in contemporary art to the cultural hub of the Midwest. By Sarah Gianelli

Sharing the seventh floor of THE MART with its sister show the *Chicago Art Fair*, is *Spectrum Chicago*, the second of two new art fairs coming to the Windy City this October.

Whereas the *Chicago Art Fair* is a gallery-only showcase of museum-level artwork, *Spectrum Chicago* is a platform for emerging artists, independent creators, studios and art collectives to present their fresh perspectives in contemporary art to curious collectors interested in artists on the cusp of discovery.

"*Spectrum Chicago* showcases emerging artists through solo presentations designed to engage new and next-generation collectors," says Eric Smith, founder and president of Redwood Art Group. "In the coming years, we plan to expand the programming and add complementary events, building toward an even more robust offering."

Spread over 30,000 square feet of exhibition space, the inaugural *Spectrum Chicago* will feature 72 solo presentations from

independent artists, offering attendees the opportunity to engage with a wide range of artists directly, hear their stories and learn about their work.

The four-day event will feature curated exhibitions, artist demonstrations, educational presentations and special programming designed to spark conversation and celebrate creativity. Visitors can explore an inspiring mix of painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media, glass, ceramics, digital art and design while forging



1
Rudy Hetzer, *Unlayering*,
mixed media on canvas, 48 x
48 in.

2
Spectrum Chicago is modeled
after its successful Florida
counterpart, *Spectrum Miami*.

3
**Micha Kuechenhoff and Grant
Rosen, *I'M NORMAL*,** mixed
media, limited edition print,
60 x 42 in.

4
**Richard Riverin, *Orange and
Green Foliage*,** acrylic on canvas,
40 x 30 in.

5
**Gina Wolfrum, *Beneath the
Evening Glow (Gemstone Series)*,**
mixed media, 48 x 48 in.



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connections with the creative visionaries behind the work.

Attendees will find contemporary pieces by artists like Rudy Hetzer, a Dallas-based painter known for his bold, highly textured portraiture that explores the complexities of the human experience. Also on offer are nature-inspired works by Ohio multimedia artist Gina Wolfrum, which incorporate a variety of paints and materials, including gold and copper leaf, crushed glass and mica to add shimmer and sparkle. Canadian artist Richard Riverin will be presenting his modern impressionistic landscapes like *Orange and Green Foliage*. “My technique is unique; no artist has ever painted the

way I do,” says the artist. “Each painting is different, yet my signature is recognizable in all of them. Collectors appreciate the spontaneity, the thick texture, the diversity and the harmony of the colors. Each painting offers a comforting and engaging presence to those who live with them every day. Other highlights include limited edition prints like *I’M NORMAL* by Artwordz founders Micha Kuechenhoff and Grant Rosen, whose work is a blend of Pop Art, graffiti/street art with a contemporary twist.

“Chicago has always been a city that embraces creativity, architecture, design and innovation,” says Smith. “*Spectrum Chicago* was created to celebrate the artists

shaping the future of contemporary art while giving collectors an opportunity to discover extraordinary work in a vibrant and welcoming environment. It’s where Chicago discovers what’s next in art.”

Visit the show website for ticket information, Opening Night Preview details and show hours. ●

SPECTRUM CHICAGO

October 7-10, 2026

THE MART

222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza, Chicago, IL 60654

www.redwoodartgroup.com/spectrum-chicago

Coastal Creativity

The Laguna Plein Air Painters Association presents nine days of events and creative competition in Laguna Beach.

The annual *Laguna Plein Air Painting Invitational* will return for its 28th year, offering the public the opportunity to watch and meet artists as they paint in the elements along the scenic, historic coastline. The event, organized by the Laguna Plein Air Painters Association (LPAPA), will begin on October 3rd, welcoming 30 of the country's top artists.

Over the course of the nine-day event, participants will capture the scenery of Laguna Beach, from the well-loved shores of Heisler Park to the deep golds and russet colors of the canyons in the fall, to the region's towering sycamores. Painting on the sides of roadways, they notice the beauty taken for granted in everyday life.

"The mission of the Laguna Plein Air Painters Association is to connect outdoor painters, globally," says Toni Kellenberg, president of the association. "But it's also about the history of our art colony in Laguna Beach. Back in 1918, a group of artists came together and founded the first Laguna Beach Art Association; they were, for the most part, outdoor painters...who we celebrate today."

The invitational offers a variety of opportunities to witness the artists at work along with additional programming the public is invited to attend. Festivities begin on Saturday, October 3, with the Welcome to Laguna Paint Out held in Heisler Park. On October 4, the games begin with the Quick Draw Painting Competition, where artists are challenged to complete a painting in two hours, followed by a silent auction. "It's a similar program each year, but it's always different," says Kellenberg. "There are new artists who have never participated and competed at this level...so there's trepidation, there's excitement, there's a lot of nervous energy. But at the end of the day, there's the awe of being together with artists...and that they are amongst masters."

In a new twist this year, LPAPA is partnering with the Coast Film & Music Festival, in conjunction with Coast Film Foundation, to present Music & Art Weekend, October 3 and 4. The event marks the inaugural



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Geoff Allen, *Granting Wishes*, watercolor, 14 x 18 in.

2
Mike Ishikawa, *Yachts Aglow*, pastel, 12 x 18 in.

3
Don Demers, *Rhythms of Crystal Cove*, oil, 11 x 14 in.

4
Jason Li, the 2025 Best in Show Winner, painting in Laguna Beach.