

POWER 1000

SOFT POWER, WALL POWER, PURCHASING POWER, POWER ALLIANCES, PERENNIAL POWER, EMERGING POWER, POWER PLAYS: THERE ARE AS MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO WIELD INFLUENCE IN THE ART WORLD AS THERE ARE PERSONALITIES WHO DO SO. HEREWITH, *ART+AUCTION*'S ANNUAL LIST OF THE TOP PLAYERS— FROM THE RENAISSANCE TO THE CONTEMPORARY CUTTING EDGE— IN AUCTIONS, GALLERIES, COLLECTING, PATRONAGE, MUSEUMS, FAIRS, AND MORE. READ ON TO FIND OUT WHO MADE THEIR MARK THIS YEAR.

Our list, which encompasses nine facets of the art world, was put to a jury—four art world insiders—who used their combined expertise to determine the top-10 most powerful figures in the business.



Josh Baer
Art adviser and author, since 1995, of the Baer Fax art industry newsletter



Nadine Johnson
Founder of Nadine Johnson & Associates Inc., a leading PR firm



Scott Reyburn
Art market journalist for Bloomberg News



Benjamin Genocchio
Editor in chief of *Art+ Auction*

TOP 10

THE PLAYERS WITH THE MOST PULL IN 2013

1



JEFF KOONS
Artist

2



DAVID ZWIRNER
Dealer

3



STEVEN P. MURPHY
CEO, Christie's

4



IWAN + MANUELA WIRTH
Dealers

5



MASSIMILIANO GIONI
Curator

6



LARRY GAGOSIAN
Dealer

7



WANG YANNAN
President, China Guardian

8



LEON BLACK
Collector

9



SHEIKHA AL-MAYASSA BINT
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA AL-THANI
Chair, Qatar Museums Authority

10



DAVID BENNETT
Chair, Europe & Middle East,
International Jewelry, Sotheby's

IN NUMERICAL ORDER: LINDA NYLIND; DIRK EUSTERBROCK AND DAVID ZWIRNER; NEW YORK AND LONDON: CHRISTIE'S; FELIX CLAY; MARCO DE SCALZI; THOS ROBINSON/GETTY IMAGES ENTERTAINMENT/GETTY IMAGES AND GAGOSIAN GALLERY; NEW YORK: CHINA GUARDIAN; PATRICK McMULLAN; BRIGITTE LACOMBE; SOTHEBY'S

(POWER PLAYERS)

- **EUGENE LEMAY**

At 1.5 million square feet on 35 acres, Mana Contemporary—a Jersey City, New Jersey, exhibition space and center for art studios, supply shops, framers, and storage facilities—is big enough to be a self-sustaining artist settlement, which would make its chief executive, Eugene Lemay, something like its mayor. Lemay, a founding partner of Moïshe's Moving Systems, which funds Mana, enlisted the help of New York dealer Mike Weiss and painter Yigal Ozeri to transform the former tobacco-manufacturing site into a contemporary art hub. And the project seems poised to grow even bigger: In March, Lemay helped organize a high-profile gala hosted by Charlie Rose and honoring Marina Abramović. He also announced plans to establish a sculpture garden, theater, and residency program.

- **THE MUGRABI FAMILY**

Textile mogul Jose Mugrabi and his two sons, Alberto and David, are a familiar sight at major New York and London evening sales at Christie's, Sotheby's, and Phillips, sitting together and perking up when any of the artists heavily represented in their 3,000-piece collection come up on the block. These include Andy Warhol, of whose work they are said to own more than 800 examples, as well as sizable holdings of Damien Hirst, Jean-Michel Basquiat, and Tom Wesselmann. Having recently announced they are expanding their focus to younger,

emerging talents, all eyes are watching to see which artist is anointed next. Hints appeared at the recent London sales, where Jose snapped up a work by Nate Lowman, *Pink Altima*, 2005, for \$330,000.

- **STEVEN P. MURPHY**

The former publishing exec has beaten the skeptics in his third year as CEO of Christie's, boldly leading the 247-year-old auction house into uncharted territory. That includes cyberspace: This year alone, the house held 50 online-only sales in collecting categories such as wine; fine art; jewels, watches, and other luxury items; even vintage Macintosh computers. The house, which saw a 9 percent uptick in sales during the first half of 2013, held the most successful art auction in history in May in New York while simultaneously swelling private sales. In September it became the first Western auction house to conduct a sale in mainland China. Next up? India, where Christie's will launch a Mumbai sale this month.

- **RAMIN SALSALI**

In 2011 the Tehran-born art collector opened a private museum in Dubai. Already he has plans under way for another, albeit of a different stripe: Set to break ground next year in the city's Burj Khalifa district, the Dubai Museum of Contemporary Art will be the United Arab Emirates' first public art museum. Salsali, a petrochemicals consultant, will donate works from his personal collection of European and Middle Eastern art, which he has been assembling since age 21, and fund the operation with contributions from the private sector rather than from the government. But Dubai's ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, has supported Salsali in other ways, most recently recognizing him with the Patron of the Arts award—for the fourth year in a row.

- **MARC SPIEGLER**

All art world eyes were on Hong Kong in May. Could the Art Basel model, which has served Switzerland and Florida so well, be exported to the much-coveted, billionaire-rich markets in the East? After the fair's parent, MCH, acquired ArtHK in 2011, Spiegler (promoted to director of the Basel triumvirate in late 2012) took pains to maintain local alliances and flavor, retaining ArtHK founder Magnus Renfrew. Spiegler told Blouinartinfo.com, "I don't think there can be any complacency...As much as it's globalized, as much as it's more international, the art world is a relatively small group of people, and it can still move very quickly from one place to another." His diligence paid off. Across the board, dealers reported strong sales and praised the fair's organization. The 2014 edition is scheduled for May 15–18.



RAMIN SALSALI



RICHARD ARMSTRONG



MARC SPIEGLER



SANDY ANGUS



EUGENE LEMAY

POWER TO WATCH

- **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.

- **TREVVYN + 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.

SAARA PRITCHARD



- **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.



ERIC LEROY



JESSICA SILVERMAN



JULIAN + TREVVYN MCGOWAN



IRENE HOFMANN



MARK PINCUS

CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT: CHRISTIE'S; ZYNGA; KATE RUSSELL; JAC DE VILLIERS; MOLLY DECOUDREAU; ARTCURIAL