

# ART & CULTURE



“CREATION OF A FALSE FEELING” COURTESY OF WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

**BLONDE MOMENT**  
“Creation of a False Feeling” by Bernadette Corporation, a New York- and Paris-based art and fashion collective, is on view at the Whitney.

**QUITE A COLLECTION** Thea Westreich Wagner and Ethan Wagner, two of the most prolific collectors of late 20th and early 21st century art, have gifted 850 artworks from their personal collection to the **Whitney Museum of American Art** and the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris. The Whitney, which received nearly 550 pieces by American artists (the non-American pieces are going to the Pompidou) from a cross section of mediums, is celebrating the benefaction with *Collected by Thea Westreich Wagner and Ethan Wagner*. The priceless stash, dating from the 1960s to present day, is showcased alongside pieces from the Pompidou’s collection in an effort to have a global dialogue integral to contemporary art. The show deconstructs the social themes that recur across the Wagners’ vast collection: the adverse effects of mass media and technology; the rise of street style and the punk aesthetic; the communication of political messages through decorative arts; and the artist as celebrity. The latter idea is symbiotic to the Wagners’ expert eye in spotting emerging artists—several art-world superstars, including Jeff Koons, Richard Prince and Cindy Sherman, were relatively unknown when the Wagners acquired their pieces. *Through March 6, 99 Gansevoort St., whitney.org* —Sahar Khan