

# TRIPOLI GALLERY

September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## Press Release

Tripoli Gallery Southampton  
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Hours: 11 – 6; closed Tues.; Sunday 12 – 5pm



**Hiroshi Sugimoto**

*101 Drive-In, Ventura, 1993*

gelatin silver print

20 x 24 inches (50.8 x 61 cm)

Ed. 11 of 25

## **Night**

October 6 – November 12, 2018

Opening reception: Saturday, October 6, 5 – 7 pm

**Southampton, NY** – Tripoli Gallery is pleased to present *Night*, a group exhibition featuring the work of Katherine Bernhardt, Ross Bleckner, Katherine Bradford, Francesco Clemente, Ann Craven, Félix Bonilla Gerena, April Gornik, Mary Heilmann, Bryan Hunt, Adrienne Rubenstein, Hiroshi Sugimoto, José Luis Vargas, and Lucy Winton. On view from October 6<sup>th</sup> through November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, *Night* will open with a reception for the artists on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7 pm, at 30a Jobs Lane, Southampton, NY.

*Night* begins as we move further into the autumn months, when the nights grow longer with each passing day. As night approaches, a certain energy is awakened in our nocturnal selves. Night is the realm of dreams from which artists can take inspiration, transforming their dreams into reality. Through art and exhibitions, we are given an opportunity to study ideas, words and their meanings. In this exhibition, “night” is the point of departure—without reality determined under bright light, night allows for the imagination to fill in the spaces of the dark where we can travel outside the confines of our physical existence.

Artworks of the night often take the form of landscapes, as seen in the work of José Luis Vargas and Lucy Winton. Vargas collages a face onto his painting that rests beside a painted speech bubble calling out *Por fin* (At last), while Winton embroiders a found tapestry of folkloric lands, creating a night scene through a painted vignette. In Katherine Bradford’s painting, *Halloween in Connecticut*, figures are dressed as ghosts, the cutouts of eyes in their white sheet costumes become windows into the matching landscape beyond. For Félix Bonilla Gerena, the night releases feelings held in throughout the day; expressive scenes of evening indulgences—sultry female figures perhaps from a night’s dream—are feverishly drawn and painted onto raw linen in black and white.

The presence of the moon is significant in any night landscape as the predominant source of natural light—as in April Gornik’s *Moon Behind Clouds*—the moon becomes a defining force as it lights the fractured surface of clouds, compressing the space between background and foreground. Similarly, Ann Craven’s paintings capture the constancy of the moon as it illuminates and colors the atmosphere of night sky with a palette both vivid and minimal, while Adrienne Rubenstein’s painterly images of broccoli within multicolored landscapes seemingly generate their own light amongst their surrounding nighttime blues. Beyond the moonlight of Earth’s night sky, Bryan Hunt explores the celestial objects of the universe, creating scientific sculptural works, while Mary Heilmann’s ceramic, *Mars*, suggests forms akin to planetary rocks.

*Night* also presents a symbolic interpretation of the dark, as in Katherine Bernhardt’s paintings of Darth Vader, which capture the essence of darkness as a galactic force. Ross Bleckner’s recent paintings conjure up phantoms of nighttime as ghostly brush strokes mix with dark variations of black hues, creating fields of gesture and movement, while Francesco Clemente’s intimate watercolor, a contemplation of blue with an impression of a white skull evokes the identity of the moon in the night sky. In Hiroshi Sugimoto’s image of a movie theater, the black and white photograph reinforces the separation placed between night and day—a film-length exposure leaves only a glowing white screen, while the movement of time is measured by tracks of stars across the sky.

*For press inquiries or further information, please contact [info@tripoligallery.com](mailto:info@tripoligallery.com) or call 631.377.3715.*

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**Katherine Bernhardt (b. 1975 St. Louis, MO)** received her MFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York in 2000 and BFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1998. Recent solo exhibitions include *Watermelon World* (2018) at the Mario Testino Museum in Lima and *Focus: Katherine Bernhardt* (2017) at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth in Texas, as well as *Green* (2017) at CANADA and *Concrete Jungle Jungle Love* (2017) at Lever House Art Collection, both in New York City. Bernhardt is well known for her recent series of paintings that depict various groupings of modern everyday objects painted as loose patterns in fields of bright color, with recent works incorporating tropical imagery acquired from travels abroad. Her other works have explored subjects of high fashion in paintings of supermodels and swatch watches, as well as paintings and collages of patterns inspired by Moroccan carpets and Dutch wax printing on African fabrics. Her work has been featured in the New York Times, Artnet News, The New Yorker, and The Creators Project, among others. Bernhardt lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

**Ross Bleckner (b. 1949 New York, NY)** studied at New York University where he received his Bachelor of Arts in 1971 and continued his studies at the California Institute of the Arts where he received his Master of Fine Arts in 1973. Bleckner's paintings came to prominence in the 1980s, with imagery that responded to the AIDS crisis through an abstracted and symbolized approach to painting. Often working in series, his other bodies of paintings explore elements of the natural world, both on the grand scale of the universe (*Constellation* paintings) and within the microscopic makeup of the human body (*Cell* paintings). Bleckner has exhibited worldwide, with a major retrospective at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in 1995, among numerous other solo exhibitions at venues including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in California, Contemporary Arts Museum in Houston, Moderna Museet in Stockholm, and the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. His work can be found in the collections of major national and international art institutions including the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, Norway; and Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain. He has exhibited with Tripoli Gallery since 2012. Bleckner lives and works in Springs, NY.

**Katherine Bradford (b. 1942 New York, NY)** received a BA from Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania and an MFA from SUNY Purchase. Recent solo exhibitions in 2018 include *Superman Returns With Swimmers* at Galerie Haverkamp, Berlin, Germany, *Friends and Strangers* at CANADA, New York, NY and *Magenta Nights* at Adams and Ollman, Portland, OR. Bradford has exhibited at The Modern Art Museum Fort Worth, Texas; MoMA PS1, New York; the Brooklyn Museum, New York; the Portland Museum of Art, Maine; the Addison Gallery of American Art, Massachusetts; the Weatherspoon Gallery, North Carolina; and the University of the Arts, Philadelphia. In 2013, Bradford had a solo exhibition titled *August* at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, Maine. In 2012 she received a Joan Mitchell Grant and in 2011 she was the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship. She has twice received an Award in Art from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2005 and 2011, and she was awarded the Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant in 2000. Her work is in the permanent collections of New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, and the New York Public Library; the Wooster Art Museum, Ohio; the Portland Museum of Art, Maine; the Portland Museum of Art, Oregon; Farnsworth Museum, Maine; Smith College Museum, Massachusetts; and Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania, among others. She first exhibited with Tripoli Gallery in the group exhibition, *Summer Trip*, in 2017. Bradford lives and works in New York and Maine.

**Francesco Clemente (b. 1952, Naples, Italy)** wrote poetry and painted as a child, and went to Rome to study architecture at the Università degli Studi di Roma, La Sapienza, in 1970. Before finishing the program he decided to pursue art instead, exhibiting widely in Europe. Since 1973 Clemente has often lived and worked in India and in 1981 he moved to New York City, collaborating with artists such as Jean-Michel Basquiat and Andy Warhol, as well as with poets including John Wieners, Allen Ginsberg, Robert Creeley, and Rene Ricard. Clemente's work has been the subject of numerous exhibitions, including traveling retrospectives of his pastels (Nationalgalerie, Berlin: 1984–85) and drawings (Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Basel: 1987–89). His works on paper were the focus of a full retrospective organized by the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 1990, which traveled within the United States and to the Royal Academy of Arts, London (1991). His works on paper have been shown in exhibitions organized by the Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (1994–95) and at the Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna (1999). The artist's comprehensive oeuvre was the subject of a retrospective exhibition, *Clemente*, mounted by the Guggenheim Museum, New York (1999–2000), which traveled to the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, Spain (2000). A survey of the artist's work was organized by the Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli (2002–03). Clemente lives and works between New York, Madras, and Rome.

**Ann Craven (b. 1967, Boston, MA)** received her MFA from Columbia University, New York and her BFA from the Massachusetts College of Art. Craven's paintings utilize memory and repetition to illustrate nature in its duality of

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constancy and change. Her various series include paintings of moons, birds, and other animal subjects, as well as abstract paintings of stripes that replicate the colors in her unique palettes. Recent solo exhibitions in 2018 include *Sunset Moon* at KARMA, New York, and *Snowbirds* at Nina Johnson, Miami. Other major solo exhibitions include *Animals 1999-2017*, at Southard Reid, London (2017); *Hello, Hello, Hello* at MacCarone, NYC (2016); *I like Blue* at Gallery DIET, Miami (2015), *Untitled (Palettes: Naked, Tagged), 2014-15*, at Southard Reid Gallery, London (2015) and *Ann Craven* at Hannah Hoffman Gallery, Los Angeles (2014). Craven's work has been exhibited internationally and reviewed in publications including The New York Times, Modern Painters, Art News, LA Times, Art in America, Artforum, Flash Art, The New Yorker, and Frieze, among others. Her paintings are in the public collections of the FRAC Champagne Ardenne in Reims, France; Henry Art Gallery, Faye G. Allen Center for the Visual Arts, Seattle, WA; MCA, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL; MoMA, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; MoCA, Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL; The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, NY; and The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY. Craven lives and works in New York City.

**Félix Bonilla Gerena (b. 1968, Utuado, Puerto Rico)** began his studies in art in Arecibo. He earned his Bachelor of Arts from the School of Plastic Arts at the University of Puerto Rico in 1992 and went on to study at the San Carlos University of Mexico and at the Autonomous University of Caracas, Venezuela. Bonilla's paintings have been exhibited extensively throughout Puerto Rico, as well as internationally at the Museum of the Americas in Miami and the Museo de las Casas Reales in the Dominican Republic and featured in noteworthy group shows in Philadelphia and Guadalupe. His work is included in many international private collections, as well as in the permanent collections of the Museo de Arte Moderno in the Dominican Republic and the Museo de Arte Historia de Arecibo, Puerto Rico. Gerena's paintings combine figurative and abstract forms, illustrating the utopic landscape of his country with vivid colors and expressionistic brushstrokes. He began exhibiting with Tripoli Gallery in 2009, and since then he has had several solo exhibitions with the gallery. Gerena lives and works in Isabela, Puerto Rico.

**April Gornik (b. 1953, Cleveland, OH)** received her BFA from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. Her work is included in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, among others. Gornik has received a Lifetime Achievement in the Arts Award from Guild Hall Academy of the Arts, and the Award of Excellence for Artistic Contributions to the Fight Against AIDS from amFAR. Gornik's paintings of land, sky and sea are rooted in observed reality and a world synthesized, abstracted, stored and remembered. They offer the viewer an opportunity to explore dichotomies between past and present, expanse and its circumscription, stillness and the inexorable momentum of atmospheric change. Her canvases – roiling seas, brewing skies, mountains overlooking endless plains – extend and engage nature's proscenium. In these captured moments time pauses, the natural world triumphs and calm descends. She first exhibited with Tripoli Gallery in *Black & White* followed by the *13th Annual Thanksgiving Collective: There is Still Good in This World*, both in 2017. Gornik lives and works in New York.

**Mary Heilmann (b. 1940, San Francisco, CA)** received a Bachelor of Art in Literature at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a Master of Art in Ceramics and Sculpture at the University of California, Berkeley. Heilmann's work has been shown in prestigious international venues since the early 1970s. She recently had a solo exhibition, *Memory Remix*, at Hauser & Wirth, Los Angeles, CA. In 2017, her work was included in the Whitney Museum of American Art's exhibition, *Fast Forward: Painting from the 1980s*, and she had a solo exhibition, *Painting Pictures*, at the Dan Flavin Art Institute in Bridgehampton, NY. A major solo presentation of her work, *Looking at Pictures*, was held in 2016 at Whitechapel Gallery, London. In 2015, a solo exhibition, *Sunset*, was commissioned as part of the Whitney Museum's inauguration of its new building, and *Two by Two, Mary Heilmann & David Reed* opened at the Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin. In 2012, *Good Vibrations* at Bonnefantenmuseum, Maastricht traveled to Neues Museum, Nuremberg, while *Mary, Blinky, Yay*, with Blinky Palermo, was exhibited at Kunstmuseum Bonn in 2013. In 2007 through 2009, a retrospective traveled from the Orange County Museum of Art in Newport Beach, California to New York's New Museum of Contemporary Art, with stops at Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, and the Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus. Heilmann has received the Anonymous Was a Woman Foundation Award (2006), as well as grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation. She has exhibited with Tripoli Gallery since 2012, most recently in a two-person exhibition with Sabra Moon Elliot titled *WAVY* (2018). Heilmann lives and works in New York City and Bridgehampton, NY.

**Bryan Hunt (b. 1947, Terre Haute, IN)** received a BFA from the Otis Art Institute of Los Angeles and participated in the Independent Study Program at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. Prior to his studies, Hunt worked for NASA as an Engineer's Aide at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. In 1978, Hunt was included in *Young American Artists* at The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, as well as *Made by sculptors* at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam. In 1979, his work was included in the exhibitions *Decade in Review* at the Whitney Museum of American Art, and *Visionary*

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*Images* at the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago. He has been commissioned nationally and internationally for public sculptures in Bear Run, PA (Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater House, 1979), Seoul, South Korea (Seoul Olympiad Park, 1982 and 1988), and Barcelona, Spain (Parc del Clot, 1985). He was commissioned twice by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation; in 2004, he created a sculpture for Coenties Slip Park titled *Coenties Ship* for which he received the Design Award for Excellence from the Public Design Commission and the mayor's office, while in 2011, Hunt had ten sculptures titled *Waterfalls on Park Avenue* on display along Park Avenue between E. 52nd and 57th Streets. His work is included in museum collections such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. His awards include the Grand Prize in the International Arts Festival, Seoul, South Korea in 1991, and an Art Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2007. Hunt lives and works in New York City and Wainscott, NY.

**Adrienne Rubenstein (b. 1983, Montréal, Canada)** received a BFA from Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, NS and an MFA from San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA. Her work has been shown in national and international solo and two-person exhibitions as well as several group exhibitions in galleries such as Reyes Projects, Birmingham, MI; Fourteen30 Contemporary, Portland, OR; White Columns, New York, NY; Tiger Strikes Asteroid, New York, NY; Marvin Gardens, Ridgewood, NY; Halsey McKay, East Hampton, NY; Venus Over Manhattan, New York, NY; CANADA, New York, NY; Galeria Mascota, Mexico City; and Galeria Alegria, Madrid. Recent exhibitions include a solo exhibition, *I Love Worms*, at The Pit in Los Angeles, CA, and a two-person exhibition with Walter Robinson titled *Permanent Embrace* at Stems Gallery in Brussels. In 2016, she was awarded the Emerging Artist Grant from the Rema Hort Mann Foundation. Her work has been featured in publications including the New York Times, Artforum, Artnews, Artsy, and Hyperallergic, among others. Rubenstein lives and works in New York.

**Hiroshi Sugimoto (b. 1948, Tokyo, Japan)** received a BA from Saint Paul's University in Tokyo and a BFA from the Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles. Since the 1970s, Sugimoto's black and white photographs have explored themes of temporality, history, and memory. His multi-disciplinary work spans photography, painting, installation and architecture, as well as performance art for theater. Sugimoto moved to New York in 1974 and in 1976 began his *Dioramas* series following a visit to the American Museum of Natural History. Also in 1976, Sugimoto started his *Theaters* series, photographing movie theaters while a film projected onto the screen and a single photographic exposure lasted the length of the film. His other photographic series include *Seascapes*, *Portraits* (of Madame Tussaud's wax figures), *Architecture*, *Colors of Shadow*, *Conceptual Forms* and *Lightning Fields*. Sugimoto's work is held in public collections including: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo; The National Gallery, London; The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; Smithsonian Institute of Art, Washington, D.C.; and Tate, London. He has received numerous grants and fellowships including the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation in 1980 and the National Endowment for the Arts in 1982. In 2001, he won the Hasselblad Foundation International Award in Photography. Sugimoto lives and works in New York and Tokyo.

**José Luis Vargas (b. 1965, Puerto Rico)** received a BFA from Pratt Institute in New York City in 1988 and in 1991 studied at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. In 1994 he received his master's degree in painting from the Royal College of Art in London, where he studied alongside Chris Ofili and Peter Doig. Vargas also studied art education at Kensington and Chelsea College in London, and has taught art courses and workshops in Puerto Rico, New York, and England since 1988. In addition to Vargas's work as a painter, he is a performance artist, teacher, community coordinator, and radio producer, integrating his work with his surrounding community. His painting explores the supernatural along with cultural myths and symbols. A sense of humor often permeates his work with the use of comic strip elements including speech bubbles and text. Vargas has exhibited internationally in London, Puerto Rico, and New York and his work is in the collections of the Museum of Art of Puerto Rico, San Juan, the Puerto Rico Museum of Contemporary Art, San Juan, and the Royal College of Art, London. Vargas lives and works in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**Lucy Winton (b. 1956, Wainscott, NY)** received an MFA from the New York Academy of Art and a BA from the University of California at Santa Cruz. Winton became immersed in drawing while studying at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. Her work draws inspiration from children's book illustrations and the romantic tradition, creating otherworldly scenes that blend figuration and abstraction in mediums such as drawing, painting and embroidery. She has exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions at the Parrish Art Museum, Watermill, NY; Center for Contemporary Printmaking, Norwalk, CT; Flag Art Foundation, New York, NY; and Southampton Arts Center, Southampton, NY. Winton has been featured in publications such as the New York Times and Bomb Magazine. Her work is in the permanent collection of the Guild Hall Museum in East Hampton, NY, and she has exhibited with Tripoli Gallery since 2016. Winton lives and works in Wainscott, NY.