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FRIEZE RETURNS TO THE PARAMOUNT BACKLOT WITH INSTALLATIONS THAT SPEAK TO THE POLITICAL MOMENT

by Brittany Martin

International art fair Frieze made its L.A. debut in early 2019—and they must have liked the reception, because the festival is coming back for a second time. The event, which will run February 14 to 16, 2020, involves special events, gallery shows, and installations at venues across the city—but the centerpiece is Frieze Projects, which takes over the famous backlot at Paramount Studios. The space will become a hotbed of immersive installations, live performances, video screenings, and site-specific works.

For 2020, co-curators Rita Gonzalez and Pilar Tompkins Rivas are making an effort to foreground works created by artists coming from Latinx and Chicana backgrounds, including Tania Candiani and Gabriella Sanchez. “For the second edition of Frieze Projects we wanted to globalize the selection of artists, while thinking in particular about Los Angeles’ relationship to the Americas. Many of the works draw on the political context within which we are operating today,” the curators wrote in a statement announcing the selections.

Another selection of works, including works by Lorna Simpson and Gary Simmons, “touch on themes of visibility, identity, and self-fashioning in relation to the African American experience,” the statement reads. Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Cullors will present a collective performance piece which highlights the use of dance and movement as a type of restorative self-care.

The complete list of all Frieze Projects pieces announced so far is below.

Will Boone (b. 1983, USA, lives and works in Los Angeles, USA) Presented by Karma and David Kordansky

A series of bronze sculptures reconfiguring metal die-cast toys to create new narratives and associations, while evoking a sense of nostalgia.