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Gagosian Presents Works by Richard Prince, Jeff Koons, and Peter Halley at TEFAF New York 2023, Opening May 12



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NEW YORK, May 10, 2023—Gagosian is pleased to announce its participation in TEFAF New York 2023, with a special presentation of works by Richard Prince, Jeff Koons, and Peter Halley, from May 12 to 16. Made between 1989 and 1994, they employ strategies of appropriation, figuration, and abstraction, responding with wry humor to the eclectic postmodernism and moral panics of a culturally volatile era. Three decades later, these works remain provocative and represent a pivotal development in the career of each artist.

Prince's *All I've Heard* (1989), from the *Monochromatic Jokes* series (initiated in 1987), nods to the conventions of Conceptual art and Color Field painting in its composition of sans serif letters laid out with tight margins on a green ground. Produced as the Cold War came to an end, the painting's deadpan punchline underscores Prince's wit, its humor premised on the coexistence of potential apocalypse and lived banality.

Hand on Breast (1990) is a work from Koons's series *Made in Heaven* (1989–90), a group of paintings and sculptures in glass, wood, and marble that debuted at the 1990 Venice Biennale. The series represents Koons in suggestive or explicit poses with Ilona Staller, the Hungarian-Italian porn star and parliamentarian whom he would marry the following year. With its frank sexuality, self-portraiture, and references to Rococo composition, *Hand on Breast* confounds divisions between private intimacy and public display amid the rise of artistic celebrity in the 1980s.

Halley's painting *Stranger Danger* (1994) is organized around the juxtaposition of precise geometric shapes and Day-Glo colors, its rectangular "cells" interconnected through linear "conduits." The composition's vertical bars signify Halley's revelation of geometry as confinement. The work's title points to abstraction as a mode of social critique, invoking the era's moral panic with a media catchphrase that arguably incited a disproportionate fear of child abduction.

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TEFAF NEW YORK 2023

May 12-16, 2023

Park Avenue Armory, New York

Booth 350

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