

WHITNEY

Whitney Museum
of American Art
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PRESS RELEASE



Darren Bader, no titled, not dated. Fruits, vegetables; fruit and vegetable salad, dimensions variable. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; purchase with funds from Sascha S. Bauer and Eleanor Heyman Propp 2015.108. © Darren Bader. Image courtesy the artist and Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York

DARREN BADER'S EDIBLE EXHIBITION TO OPEN AT THE WHITNEY ON JANUARY 15

NEW YORK, NY, December 18, 2019—From January 15 to February 17, 2020, the Whitney's eighth floor gallery will be the site of *fruits, vegetables; fruit and vegetable salad*. The exhibition is comprised of an untitled work by Darren Bader from the Whitney's permanent collection—acquired in 2015 and never before presented at the Museum—featuring a selection of fruits and vegetables presented as sculptures on pedestals. Through this organizing principle, Bader calls attention to the formal properties of the objects' colors, shapes, lines, and textures.

At scheduled times throughout the week—Mondays, Wednesdays, and Sundays from 3 pm–6 pm, and Fridays from 7:30 pm–10 pm—museum staff will remove the ripened fruits and vegetables from the pedestals. Rather than disposing of the produce, Bader has instructed that a fruit and vegetable salad should be created. While the gallery sits empty, the washing, slicing, dicing, and chopping of the produce in the Museum's Studio Cafe kitchen will be captured on video and projected in the gallery for visitors to observe. The fruit and vegetable salad will then be served in the gallery and visitors will be invited to eat it. Museum staff will refresh the artwork with a new selection of produce, and the process will repeat.

Scott Rothkopf, Senior Deputy Director and Nancy and Steve Crown Family Chief Curator, remarked, "Rigorous, funny, and strangely uncanny, Bader's work tests not only what an artwork can be but also what a museum can collect and how we display it. We're thrilled to show this recent acquisition for the first time, though we recognize it might not taste as good as it looks."

In *fruits, vegetables; fruit and vegetable salad*, Bader creates a visual and participatory experience from everyday objects. The sculpture continues the artist's ongoing examination of art's possibilities, as well as his investigation of art as concept, language, and commodity.

"*fruits, vegetables; fruit and vegetable salad* is an opportunity to be nimble in showcasing a work from the Whitney's collection, and to collaborate with an artist the Museum first showed in the 2014 Biennial. This work's absurdist yet sincere premise is particularly apropos in our current climate, and I hope viewers will engage through close looking, questioning, and salad-consumption," said Christie Mitchell, senior curatorial assistant.

Curatorial Credit

This exhibition is organized by Christie Mitchell, senior curatorial assistant.

About the Artist

Darren Bader (b. 1978, Bridgeport, CT) lives and works in New York. Solo shows of his work held in institutions include (*@mined_oud*), Madre, Naples, (2017-2018); *Meaning and Difference*, The Power Station, Dallas (2017); *Reading Writing Arithmetic*, Radio Athènes, Athens (2015); *Where Is a Bicycle's Vagina (and Other Inquiries) or Around the Samovar*, 1857, Oslo (2012); *Images*, MoMA-PS1, New York (2012). Awarded the Calder Prize in 2013, Bader has taken part in numerous group exhibitions and biennials including the following: *13^{ème} Biennale de Lyon*, La vie moderne, Lyon (2015); *Under the Clouds: From Paranoia to the Digital Sublime*, Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto (2015); *2014 Whitney Biennial*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2014); *Antigrizioso*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2013); *Something About a Tree*, FLAG Foundation, New York (2013); *Empire State*, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome (2013); *Oh, you mean cellophane and all that crap*, The Calder Foundation, New York (2012); *Greater New York*, MoMA-PS1, New York (2010); *To Illustrate and Multiply: An Open Book*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2008).

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists at a time when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for more than eighty years. The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists themselves, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art

The Whitney's Collection: Selections from 1900 to 1965

Jason Moran

Order and Ornament: Roy Lichtenstein's Entablatures

Pope.L: Choir

Rachel Harrison Life Hack

Alan Michelson: Wolf Nation

Making Knowing: Craft in Art 1950–2019

fruits, vegetables; fruit and vegetable salad

Cauleen Smith: Mutualities

Vida Americana: Mexican Muralists Remake American Art, 1925–1945

Jill Mulleady

Salman Toor: How Will I Know

Agnes Pelton: Desert Transcendentalist

Dave McKenzie: The Story I Tell Myself

Prints from Everyday Objects

Julie Mehretu

Working Together: The Photographers of the Kamoinge Workshop

Around Day's End: Downtown New York, 1970–1986

My Barbarian

Public Art Project: David Hammons: Day's End

Jasper Johns

Dawoud Bey: An American Project

Ongoing

Through January 5, 2020

Through April 2020

Through March 8, 2020

Through January 12, 2020

Through January 12, 2020

November 22, 2019–January 2021

January 15–February 17, 2020

February 17–May 17, 2020

February 17–May 17, 2020

On View March 2020

March 20–July 5, 2020

March 13–June 21, 2020

April–May 2020

June–September 2020

June 26–September 20, 2020

July–October 2020

July–October 2020

Opens September 2020

Opens September 2020

Opens October 28, 2020

Opens November 2020

The Whitney Museum of American Art is located at 99 Gansevoort Street between Washington and West Streets, New York City. Museum hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10:30 am to 6 pm; Friday from 10:30 am to 10 pm. Closed Tuesday except in July and August. Adults: \$25. Full-time students, visitors 65 & over, and visitors with disabilities: \$18. Visitors 18 years & under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 7–10 pm. For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit whitney.org.

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