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Frank Stella Forges Ahead, Land Artwork Spurs Legislation, and More

BY ANNELIESE COOPER | NOVEMBER 05, 2014



Artist Frank Stella poses in front of his Art work "Stella's Chapel" at the Bernar Venet's Art foundation on July 11, 2014 in Le Muy, France.

(Photo by Didier Baverel/WireImage)

— **Frank Stella Forges Ahead:** With **Frank Stella's** retrospective at the **Whitney** coming up in 2015, the Wall Street Journal ran an in-depth profile of the artist, from his early career through his recent joint venture with **Marianne Boesky** and **Dominique Lévy** — and the challenges that come with his ever-evolving art practice. “Some people are good at painting with their hands, but I need my whole body,” Stella said. “You have to have balance and control, and you have to be able to move fast —I don’t have that anymore. You have to be able to think, and I can’t concentrate for more than two or three hours.” [WSJ]

— **Land Artwork Spurs Legislation:** In September, **Senator Harry Reid** of Nevada (who just last night lost his title of Senate Majority Leader) quietly introduced a bill to conserve 800,000 acres of desert north of Las Vegas, where artist **Michael Heizer** has been steadily constructing his massive land art piece “City” since 1969. In 2005, the Department of Energy threatened to cut through the area with the with a rail line carrying nuclear waste; Reid introduced a similar bill in 2010 and remains the current iteration’s sole sponsor. “[‘City’] is one of the most ambitious artworks ever envisioned, certainly in the United States,” said **Michael Govan**, director of the **Los Angeles County Museum of Art**. [[Hyperallergic](#), [Deseret News](#)]

— **Britain’s Art Market Drops:** Following the 2006 implementation of the Artist’s Resale Right levy in the UK, the British art market has seen an overall decrease of 3 percent, while the international market has seen a 10 percent increase. Though the 4 percent fee was originally created to bolster artists, it may ultimately be hurting them, as dealers are now under greater financial pressure. Meanwhile, critic **Jonathan Jones** took another swipe at UK sovereignty, arguing staunchly for the return of the **Elgin Marbles**: “The British empire is dead. So is the age of cultural booty.” [[BBC](#), [The Guardian](#)]

— **Budapest Museum Reopens Design Contest:** After a less than satisfactory first round, organizers have instituted a second design competition for Budapest’s **National Gallery** and **Ludwig Museum**, with a shortlist including **Renzo Piano** and **Jean Nouvel**. [[TAN](#)]

— **Rare Warhol Films at BAM:** From November 6 through 8 at 7:30 p.m., as part of the Next Wave festival, the **Brooklyn Academy of Music** will premiere 15 never-before-seen **Andy Warhol** films — including “a short of **Lou Reed** drinking a Coke, and erotic acts aplenty” — set to original music performed live by Television’s **Tom Verlaine**, among others. [[DNAinfo](#)]

— **Centre Pompidou’s New Gallery:** At the recent opening of the **Centre Pompidou**’s photo gallery, the center’s president, **Alain Seban**, announced that he hopes to create another gallery for architecture and design. [[TAN](#)]

— In a double whammy of “things that shouldn’t happen” news, **Jeff Koons** wants to design **Jimmy Page**’s next album cover. [[HuffPo](#)]

— Controversial left-wing Israeli artist **Natali Cohen Vaxberg** has now been placed under house arrest for a work in which she defecates on the country’s flag. [[ArtDaily](#)]

— The estate of a prominent Missouri couple left the **St. Louis Museum of Art** 225 works valued at \$50 million — including two **Norman Rockwell** paintings and more than 200 pieces of Asian art. [[St. Louis Post Dispatch](#)]