

“Hiding in Plain Sight” at FreedmanArt, New York

A blouinartinfo.com/news/story/3288291/hiding-in-plain-sight-at-freedmanart-new-york

By BLOUIN ARTINFO

“Hiding in Plain Sight,” an exhibition of objects common, and curious will be on view at FreedmanArt, New York through December 29, 2018.

The exhibition explores the transformation of common objects. The works of art have been made of marble, bronze, or oil paint on well-prepared canvases. Modernism turned artists’ attention to fugitive materials.

The artists include Thomas Hart Benton, Alexander Calder, Joseph Cornell, Mark di Suvero, Helen Frankenthaler, Nancy Graves, Nicola Ginzel, Pablo Picasso, Kurt Schwitters, Jean Shin, Richard Stankiewicz, Frank Stella, Richard Tuttle, and John Walker.

“At a Parisian dinner party, in 1925, Alexander Calder made the figure of a chicken from a piece of bread, and a hairpin. A third option is to endow a disposable object with the permanence of art — as Calder did when he converted a Ballantine beer can into Samba Rattle, circa 1948, a musical instrument complete with a wooden handle and noise-making pebbles,” the gallery writes.

“In 1913, mounting a bicycle wheel atop a kitchen stool, Marcel Duchamp produced the first found-object sculpture. Just a year earlier, Pablo Picasso and George Braque had pasted scraps of newsprint, and wallpaper to the surfaces of their paintings. Dubbed collage, variations on Braque and Picasso’s innovation quickly proliferated in the work of Kurt Schwitters, Jean Arp, and scores of other artists. In three dimensions, Dadaists and Surrealists assembled common objects with wild exuberance. This incursion of the common, the found, and the readymade released artists from the obligation to employ traditional skills. The very idea of art was transformed. Though we usually locate this development in the early decades of the twentieth century, there is no limit to the possibilities it unleashed. The potential of the common object is constantly renewed, as we see in work by the younger artists included in this exhibition,” the gallery says.

“On the whole, the exhibit celebrates the artist’s power to transform the ordinary. As revision becomes visionary, art becomes revelatory, and we begin to see common objects as the bearers of previously unimagined possibilities,” art critic Carter Ratcliff says.

The exhibition is on view through Dec 29, 2018, at FreedmanArt, 25 east 73rd street New York NY 10021.

For details, visit: <http://freedmanart.com/>

Click on the slideshow for a sneak peek at the exhibition.

<http://www.blouinartinfo.com>

Founder: Louise Blouin