

LONDON

Power Alliance



Gérard Faggionato

Gérard Faggionato, the gallerist and longtime minder of the **Francis Bacon** estate, is closing up shop in Mayfair after working solo for 22 years, and joining the London outpost of the **David Zwirner** gallery as a full partner.

“Running my own gallery in London,” said Faggionato in a farewell e-mail to clients and friends, “has been very creative, and it is with this in mind that I am embracing the challenge ahead.” The onetime head of both contemporary and Impressionist/modern art at Christie’s London shocked his colleagues with the decision to shutter his Albemarle Street space with its bespoke David Chipperfield design. The dealer was approached by friend **Christopher D’Amelio**, another recently hired Zwirner partner, during Frieze Masters with an unsolicited invitation to join. With his formidable network of contacts among European collectors, he is expected to be a topflight dealmaker for Zwirner. “This opened an opportunity,” says Faggionato, “which I didn’t expect or even think about.” —JUDD TULLY

NEW YORK

Setting Up Shop

“Starting a brick-and-mortar art gallery just felt like the natural next step,” says **Richard Taittinger**, citing five years’ previous experience working with galleries and auction houses, earning a master’s degree, and running his own art advisory. He has now launched a 5,000-square-foot eponymous space on the Lower East Side. Eight years ago, Taittinger left his career in the wine industry to pursue his passion for contemporary art, moving from France to New York to join Phillips de Pury & Company (now Phillips). He is currently representing a handful of artists, including **Haluk Akakçe**, **Ding Yi**,



Richard Taittinger

Théo Mercier, and **Wang Du**. This month, the gallery will spotlight Akakçe’s work in the artist’s first solo show in New York in a decade. —BM

NEW YORK

Digital Marketplace

Allis Ghim brings more than 10 years of experience in e-commerce and marketing to **Bidsquare** as its new CEO and president. Ghim says her goal is “to establish Bidsquare as the destination for individuals and collectors seeking exceptional pieces.” Founded in 2014 by six houses—Brunk Auctions, Cowan’s Auctions, Leslie Hindman Auctioneers, Pook & Pook, Rago, and Skinner—Bidsquare offers live sales across 14 categories, which include vintage jewelry, fine art, and glass. Prior to her appointment, Ghim was VP of global sales and operations at the online decorative-arts clearinghouse 1stdibs, and she worked for more than eight years at eBay in several leadership roles. “My experience with consumer marketing and deep e-commerce background gives me a strong understanding of consumer behavior,” says Ghim. “With auction houses vetting all pieces sold, we have a unique opportunity to bring their amazing selection and a trusted user experience to buyers around the world.”



Allis Ghim

—LIZA M.E. MUHLFELD

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BENTONVILLE, ARKANSAS

New American Frontiers

The **Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art** has made two recent hires: **Margaret C. Conrads** as director of curatorial affairs and **Robin Groesbeck** as director of exhibitions and interpretive presentations. Conrads previously served as deputy director of art and research at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort



Margaret C. Conrads

Worth, Texas. “The museum is ready to take a longer view of collection growth, research, and exhibitions,” says Conrads of her ambitions for the museum’s permanent collection and programming, adding, “Their development will take full advantage of the broad arc of American creativity already on display and even expand it, allowing more layered conversations that connect past and present, as well as across media and themes.” Groesbeck, who was a senior director of exhibits and design at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, notes, “I’m excited to create installations that slow people down a little and draw them in with great works of art, striking design, and interesting stories.” —BM



Robin Groesbeck

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SUERAYA SHAHEEN AND DAVID ZWIRNER; NEW YORK AND LONDON: BENJAMIN LOZOVSKY; PETER HURLEY; CRYSTAL BRIDGES MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART; BENTONVILLE: AMON CARTER MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART; FORT WORTH