

LEONARDO DREW

Number 341 (2022)

Art Basel - Unlimited

June 14 - 19, 2022

VIP Preview on June 13, 2022, 3:00pm -8:00pm



Leonardo Drew, *Number 341* (digital composite), 2022.

Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco; Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, Johannesburg, and London; and Galerie Lelong & Co., New York and Paris, are pleased to announce a new site-specific installation *Number 341 (2022)* by Leonardo Drew for Art Basel - Unlimited, marking the artist's first presentation of a monumental work in Switzerland. Curated by Giovanni Carmine, he has described Drew's work as "one of the most ambitious projects at this year's edition of Unlimited."

Since the 1990s, Leonardo Drew has been making assemblage-based installations and sculptures in his distinctive abstract language that speaks of life's cyclical nature. *Number 341 (2022)* marks a new turning point for the artist as Drew extends the wall installation onto the floor plane for the first time, amplifying its dynamic composition and structure. Drew's abstractions command the viewer's eyes on multiple planes while demonstrating the artist's keen understanding of materials and their materiality. The artist weathers the wood used in his works through various processes, transforming their appearance into one that resembles states of natural decomposition. Elements as small as toothpicks are additively layered to create sculptures which seem to pulse with intrinsic energy.

To view and download images of the artist and past works, please visit:

<https://bit.ly/leonardodrewunlimited>

About the Artist

For over three decades, Leonardo Drew has become known for creating contemplative abstract sculptural works that play upon a tension between order and chaos. At once monumental and intimate in scale, his work recalls post-Minimalist sculpture that alludes to America's industrial past. Drew transforms accumulations of raw materials such as wood, scrap metal, and cotton to articulate various overlapping themes with emotional gravitas: from the cyclical nature of life and decay to the erosion of time. His surfaces often approach a language of their own, embodying the labored process of writing oneself into history.

Drew's works have been shown internationally and are included in numerous public collections including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; and Tate, London. His works have recently been acquired by The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut; North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh; Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Bloomington, Indiana; and New Orleans Museum of Art, Louisiana among others.

For press enquiries, please contact Grace Hong at grace@galerielelong.com and +1 (212) 315 0470 and Jessie Cohen at jessie@goodman-galleryuk.com and +44 7535061177.

Drew was commissioned for a new outdoor project *City in the Grass* for Madison Square Park in 2019, marking the Madison Square Park Conservancy's 38th public commission and the artist's first major public outdoor art project. *City in the Grass* was presented as a solo exhibition in three museums, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut (2021); Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson (2020); and North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh (2020). Other solo exhibitions have been held at the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California (2020); University of Massachusetts Amherst (2019); de Young Museum, Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco, California (2017); Palazzo Delle Papesse, Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena, Italy (2006); and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C. (2000). Drew's mid-career survey, *Existed*, premiered at the Blaffer Gallery at the University of Houston in 2009, and traveled to the Weatherspoon Art Museum in Greensboro, North Carolina, and the DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Massachusetts. Drew was also commissioned for two major site-responsive works permanently installed at San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, and at the Facebook Headquarters, Menlo Park, California respectively.

Drew was born in 1961 in Tallahassee, Florida, and he grew up in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He currently lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

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Leonardo Drew, *Number 341* (digital composite), 2022. © Leonardo Drew, Courtesy Galerie Lelong & Co., New York.



Leonardo Drew in his studio, 2021. Photo: Christopher Garcia Valle, courtesy of Anthony Meier Fine Arts and Galerie Lelong & Co., New York.



Leonardo Drew, *City in the Grass* (2019) at Madison Square Park, New York City. Photo: Hunter Canning.



Installation view, *Hammer Projects: Leonardo Drew*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California. Joshua White Photography, courtesy of Hammer Museum.



Installation view: Leonardo Drew, *Making Chaos Legible*, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh. Photograph courtesy of North Carolina Museum of Art.



Leonardo Drew, *Number 825* (2021), at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut. Photograph courtesy of Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.