

ART BUZZ

# OUT of the WHITE BOX

Freize LA underscored what Angelenos have long known: When it comes to art, Southern California's the place to be. Three new galleries confirm it. —Abigail Stone

A pioneer in the luxury earphone market, Noble Audio co-founder **Brannan Mason** is now focused on reinventing the art gallery. "We wanted to create a destination where you could hang out and really enjoy the work," Mason explains. To that end, his eponymous Arts District gallery ([brannanmason.com](http://brannanmason.com)) includes a bar, a viewing salon and, for out-of-towners, a remotely accessed online viewing experience. Another component of the feel-good vibe? A portion of the proceeds will be donated to charity.

In West Adams, gallerist Mike Weiss and artist Virginia Martinsen have combined their middle names, converting a former meat market into **Lowell Ryan Projects** ([lowellryanprojects.com](http://lowellryanprojects.com).) Instead of relying on a stable of artists, the former New Yorkers will let serendipity—and a packed schedule of studio visits—be their guide, focusing on group exhibits that unify artists across a spectrum of experiences, techniques and backgrounds. "The goal is to let the shows find us," Weiss says. The gallery's current show, *The Color Out of Space*, is inspired by H.P. Lovecraft's fantastical sci-fi horror stories.

"We kept on shipping to Los Angeles," says **The House of Fine Art's** ([thehouseoffineart.com](http://thehouseoffineart.com)) Elio d'Anna of the decision to supplement the gallery's locations in London and Mykonos with a branch in West Hollywood. Like the color-shifting work of Zhuang Hong Yi, the Dutch-based Chinese artist currently hanging on its walls, the gallery's roster of international artists—including Ilhwa Kim, Roberta Coni, Joseph Klubansky and Gavin Rain—is constantly morphing to meet the demands of its cosmopolitan clientele, including dealing in eight types of cryptocurrency. Accepting change in today's global art market? Welcome to the future.



Clockwise from left: The House of Fine Art's recent Joseph Klubansky exhibition showcased an array of sculptures; Brannan Mason's inaugural show will feature work by Etienne Rougery-Herbaut and Samdi; Lowell Ryan Projects' current group exhibit includes towering pieces by Mark Flood.



From left: A bold striped look from Commonwealth Proper's spring/summer 2019 collection; CFO Douglas Martin, CEO and co-founder Craig Arthur von Schroeder and DTLA showroom manager Mike Scacozza.



FASHION FLASH

## STYLE MAKERS

Bespoke design and custom tailoring have found a new home in the Arts District with the recent arrival of **Commonwealth Proper** ([commonwealthproper.com](http://commonwealthproper.com)). Co-founders Craig Arthur von Schroeder and Douglas Martin launched the by-appointment men's haberdashery in Philadelphia in 2008 after their craving for a more creative course inspired them to hang up their corporate warrior lifestyles and dive headlong into couture craftsmanship. Over the last decade, as they expanded across America with ateliers in Pittsburgh, Atlanta and now here in SoCal, Commonwealth Proper has established a reputation for producing posh garments for the discerning gent. Von Schroeder and Martin's latest collections include suiting, shirts, trousers, outerwear and knitwear, all made in the United States, while an exclusive line of Italian-crafted shoes rounds the aesthetic. "Over the last 10 years of doing trunk shows in Los Angeles, we've seen the demand for custom clothing grow," says von Schroeder. "Commonwealth Proper provides a high-level of service, attention to detail, quality and fit that no one in the market can mimic. We believe in subtle details like colored button thread and unique, in-house lining we collaborate with artists to create. Our by-appointment only showroom adds an element of privacy and exclusivity that our L.A. clients really like." —Matt Stewart

ETIENNE ROUGERY-HERBAUT AND SAMDI: "MAN WITH THE BLACK HAT" (2019); PHOTO BY ELON SCHOENHOLZ; JOSEPH KLUBANSKY: "THE THINKER" (2018); MARK FLOOD: "THE WOMAN'S CULT" (2017); PORTRAIT BY ANDREW TOMASINO, STRIPED SUIT PHOTO BY DARRIN CRAIG