

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Artsy partners with Tomokazu Matsuyama to benefit Asian American Arts Alliance

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Proceeds from the auction will benefit the Asian American Arts Alliance. Image courtesy of Artsy

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Global art platform Artsy is hosting an auction with Japanese artist Tomokazu Matsuyama and Kotaro Nukaga Gallery in honor of AAPI Heritage Month.

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The auction will benefit the Asian American Arts Alliance and will provide millions of Artsy collectors the chance to bid on the featured art while also supporting the nonprofit. The single-lot auction will be held from May 12-26 and will feature a recently completed painting completed by the artist.

"At Artsy, we're constantly working towards a more inclusive art world, and it's our responsibility to further advocate for those incredibly talented artists who deserve our attention and are leading the way in the industry for their talent as much as their social activism," said Shlomi Rabi, vice president of auctions at Artsy, in a statement. "We're honored to spotlight Tomokazu Matsuyama through this collaboration, and auction off his work to raise funds for the Asian American Arts Alliance."

Honoring talent

The single-auction auction features a recently-completed painting from Mr. Matsuyama's "Fictional Landscapes" series. The painting is titled "Another Believer" 2021 and its estimated value is at \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Proceeds from the auction will benefit the Asian American Arts Alliance, which aims to strengthen Asian American artists and cultural groups through an active exchange of resources and promotion as well as community building.



"Another Believer" is valued at \$150,000 to \$200,000. Image courtesy of Artsy

"Another Believer" reflects inspirations from several diverse cultures, including pop art touches, abstract expressionism, Japanese art and additional themes. The work is a unique example of a large-scale rectangular canvas by Mr. Matsuyama, with a detailed surface of layered brushwork, featuring intricate flower, animals, fabrics and patterns.

"The art world is beginning to evolve but Asian art still needs a stronger voice," Mr. Matsuyama said in a statement. "I want to amplify our voices through this benefit auction, and give back to an organization that's dedicated to strengthening Asian American artists and cultural groups."

This is one of Artsy's several community outreach initiatives.

Last month, Artsy partnered with the Ukrainian Institute of ModernArt for a new auction to support the relief of refugees fleeing Ukraine.

The "Impact: Artists in Support of Refugees from Ukraine" was an emergency benefit auction held from March 31 to April 14. Artsy donated a portion of the proceeds to USA for UNHCR, an organization that provides aid to people affected by the war in Ukraine ([see story](#)).