

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## Gagosian, Artsy announce benefit auction in support of social justice

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*Stanley Whitney's "The Freedom We Fight For" will sell at auction, with proceeds supporting social justice initiatives. Image courtesy of Artsy*

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Contemporary art gallery Gagosian is partnering with the world's largest online art marketplace to drive impact for criminal justice reform and reproductive rights.

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The elder establishment joins forces with a new age peer, uplifting the work of acclaimed artist Stanley Whitney in a single-lot benefit auction to be held exclusively on Artsy. Titled "The Freedom We Fight For," all proceeds from the sale of Mr. Whitney's work will go to the Art for Justice Fund and Planned Parenthood of Greater New York, which support the urgent fights for decarceration and justice reform and reproductive rights in the United States, respectively.

"We are honored to support Stanley's tremendous generosity to donate one of his paintings to this great cause," said Ashley Stewart, director at **Gagosian**, in a statement.

"We hope that our resources and collective effort will continue to benefit organizations that are important to the gallery's community of artists and advocates."

### Championing change

By pre-registering now for the event on Sept. 27 at 12:00 p.m. EDT through Artsy's platform, art lovers can put themselves in position to place a bid for the initiative's central piece.

"The Freedom We Fight For is a reflection of what's going on politically in our country and is designed to make an impact for Art for Justice and Planned Parenthood," said Stanley Whitney, artist, in a statement.

"These organizations are fighting for such critical issues that deserve everyone's attention and I'm grateful to have the opportunity to support them through this auction with Artsy and Gagosian."

The work, an 80-inch-square oil-on-linen abstract painting highlights Mr. Whitney's color expertise.



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A post shared by Gagosian (@gagosian)

According to Gagosian, the painting's "stacked" composition, pieced together from rectilinear fields of red, yellow, green, blue, orange, brown, black, and gray divided by horizontal bands of red, blue, and teal, effectively deconstructs the modernist grid.

So, too, do its translucent layers of paint and energetic brushwork, says the international art dealer, which specializes in modern and contemporary art and holds nineteen locations across the United States, Europe, and Asia.

While both parties are united around the common goal of using art as a tool for change in this case, ending mass incarceration and safeguarding reproductive justice are of the utmost concern Gagosian continues to cement its standing in the digital marketplace with its participation.

Over the past two years, Artsy Auctions have raised over \$25 million for charitable causes. Its Next in Show initiative aims to support artists without gallery representation on the Artsy platform ([see story](#)), in an effort to democratize and diversify the art industry.

Gagosian frequently spotlights artists from underrepresented communities as part of its Artist Spotlight online platform. Both parties continue a history of social patronage with this partnership.