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Bernd Goeckler Debuts Virtual Viewing Room with The New Bronze Age Exhibition



June 13, 2020
By Quinn Halman



Lily pad candleholders, c. 2020 by Paula Swinnen. Photography courtesy of Bernd Goeckler.

Artists and designers have always turned constraints into opportunities of innovation. Throughout this pandemic, many galleries and showrooms have had to rethink how the public can access their collections of artwork. Bernd Goeckler (<https://www.bgoecklerantiques.com/>), an art dealership renowned for antiques that's been an industry favorite for over three decades, is unveiling its virtual viewing room with an exhibition spotlighting the beauty of bronze.

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"Grande Ailée," dining table, c. 1984 by Fred Brouard. Photography courtesy of Magen H Gallery.

The New Bronze Age (June 15 – July 10) seeks to highlight the romantic, and frankly humanistic, partnership of two metals fused together featuring pieces from the local Cristina Grajales Gallery, The Future Perfect, Hostler Burrows, and Magen H Gallery, to name just a few. This show is exclusively produced for Bernd Goeckler's viewing room so the intent has always been for the public to view these works online rather than be a facsimile of a showroom.

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Console and mirror, c. 2020 by Laurent Chauvat. Photography courtesy of Bernd Goeckler.

This initiative is spearheaded by Katja Hirche whose role as gallery director at Bernd Goeckler constantly has her searching for interesting and meaningful dialogue between art and culture. “In a world of discord, bronze stands for stability, truth and permanence; a polished and pock-marked beacon of our unwavering faith in beauty and craft in an uncertain world,” she says. The notions of strength and solidarity are present in the history of bronze artwork and remain especially topical today.

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Pair of side tables, c. 1960 by Costa Couletianos. Photography courtesy of Magen H Gallery.

A new level of participation between design dealers and art enthusiasts is achieved in embracing the new non-physical exhibition, injecting a new energy into New York City's art world. By following the same aesthetic narrative, these neighboring galleries are able to relate to each other in a way that shows under one big tent often do not allow for. This storytelling and collaborative approach to exhibitions is perhaps a forecast into how galleries will continue to present during and after the pandemic.



Antique commode with matte black lacquered wooden body. Photography courtesy of Bernd Goeckler.

In keeping with the community-minded ethos of the show, all of the local participating galleries are pledging profits from *The New Bronze Age* sales to the same New York City-based charity. This organization was chosen for its work in responding to families with children who are food insecure during the coronavirus pandemic.

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"Untitled" sculpture c. 1970 by Richard Filipowski. Photography courtesy of Hostler Burrows.

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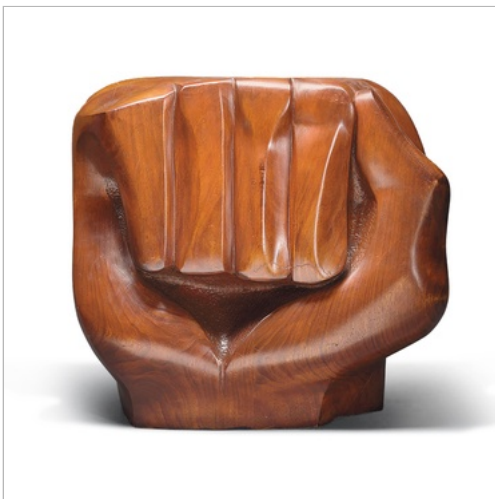
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