FRIEZE

'Spotlight' at Frieze Masters 2023: Groundbreaking 20th Century Artists

Curated by Valerie Cassel Oliver, Spotlight features solo presentations by artists including Rose Finn-Kelcey, Maren Hassinger and Judith Lau and, reflecting on freedom, identity, political regimes and abstraction

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Spotlight returns to Frieze Masters for 2023, from 11 to 15 October in The Regent's Park. Directed for the first time by Valerie Cassel Oliver (Sydney and Frances Lewis Family Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts), the section features solo presentations by 20 influential 20th century artists from geographies as broad as Buenos Aires to Bucharest, across a wide range of media.

In addition to its special focus on underrepresented work, Spotlight reveals new research into overlooked figures and presents significant but unfamiliar pieces by established artists. This year's edition champions new voices at the fair, with half of the galleries participating Frieze Masters for the first time. Here are some select highlights from the section.



Maren Hassinger, On Dangerous Ground (artist in studio), 1981, shown here with Bush (On Dangerous Ground), 1981, wire rope, 122 × 91 cm and Splintered Starburst (On Dangerous Ground), 1981, wire rope, 127 × 30 cm. Courtesy: Susan Inglett Gallery; photo: @ Museum Associates/LACMA

Susan Inglett Gallery recreates elements of Maren Hassinger's pivotal installation On Dangerous Ground at LACMA (Los Angeles County Musuem of Art) in 1981. Wire sheaves stand bristling in a cluster in the centre of the booth and are unravelled to Starburst form on the walls. Evoking natural forms with metal, Hassinger opens up questions about order and freedom, which are similarly posed by the installation's title, suggesting the artist's own relationship to the museum setting as a woman and conceptual artist of colour (Hassinger's 1981 exhibition marked the first solo presentation of a Black artist at the museum).

