

# LA WEEKLY

## INSTITUTIONS AND OUTLIERS: AUTUMN ART SEASON PREVIEW

By Shana Nys Dambrot  
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Installation view of *Chloë Bass: Wayfinding*. (Photo by Michael Thomas, courtesy of Pulitzer Arts Foundation)

This Autumn's art season is set to rival anything that came in the Before Times, as an urgent desire to get back in the swing of things, a backlog of major planned exhibitions, and a spate of high-profile new gallery inaugurations combine for a September that will wreak havoc on every art-lover's calendar. For some guidance on the absurdly massive September 10 (and only slightly less ridiculous September 17) gallery opening slates, refer to our regular Arts Calendar lineup, where we will do our best to give form to the chaos. In the meantime here's a look ahead at the rest of the season, with a baker's dozen of selected highlights from area institutions, plus a few notable independent outliers.



*Chloë Bass at Art + Practice*

## Chloë Bass, Justen LeRoy, Thaddeus Mosley at Art + Practice

*Chloë Bass* | #sky #nofilter: *Hindsight for a Future America* is a photography, text-based, performance art, and public sculpture project by conceptual artist Chloë Bass, the crossplatform result of a series documenting perfect blue skies during the anxious 2016 election cycle and painting them with her own and discourse texts as a form of critique and meditation. There's a book component, a gallery exhibition, and the imminent unveiling of a newly commissioned public sculpture in South Los Angeles in the form of a participatory sundial. Bass will also open a unique outdoor project at the Skirball in November (see below).



Installation view of *Chloë Bass: Wayfinding*. (Photo by Michael Thomas, courtesy of Pulitzer Arts Foundation)

### Fabric of a Nation, Chloë Bass at the Skirball

In case it's not yet been made clear, American quilting is having a moment. Is it the comfort that attracts us amid a perilous time, speaking to individual and collective nostalgia? The fascinating history of the genre's social origins in the parable South? A gravitation toward the tactile and exceptionally analog materiality as a resistance to the flatness of the digital age? The poetry of rescuing scraps and transforming them into something greater? Probably yes, it's all of that and more. *Fabric of a Nation: American Quilt Stories* features works by more than 40 artists, including Harriet Powers, Bisa Butler, and Sanford Biggers, exploring the narrative, storytelling power of quilts and quiltmakers. Originally organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Skirball version adds work by Los Angeles artists Sabrina Gschwandtner, Ramsess, and Sula Bermúdez-Silverman.

Artist Chloë Bass is also having a moment, with a show at Art + Practice and an ambitious public commission for South LA (see above), and *Wayfinding* is kind of a big deal too. It's the first time in the Skirball's history they've exported their curation to the whole of the 15-acre outdoor campus. In each of its five sections, a large, mirrored billboard sculpture surrounded by dozens of small- and medium-sized sculptures and a site-specific audio element asks deceptively simple questions, and the viewer's psyche does the rest.

*Brentwood, November 17 – March 12, \$12; skirball.org.*