



Art on the edge of the Pacific

By Gail Goldberg

San Francisco's Frey Norris Gallery: new grand space, same amazing art

For eight-plus years, partners Raman Frey and Wendi Norris have been featuring exciting exhibits, with a focus on global arts, at their eponymous and renowned San Francisco gallery. While their dedication and mission haven't changed a bit, the space in which the art lives has transformed dramatically. Opened just a couple of months ago, the new 5,100-square-foot Frey Norris Contemporary & Modern gallery, located in the heart of the city's energetic Yerba Buena arts district, is gorgeous and functional.

Mind you, the gallery's previous downtown space was no slouch. *Au contraire*: the four-level Geary Street location was sleek and sophisticated, and served Frey Norris well for many years. However with no room left for expansion, the time was ripe for a move – and (almost) double the space. “[The new space] is just blocks from the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, the Contemporary Jewish Museum and the Museum of the African



Diaspora and is the natural next step for Frey Norris,” says Frey.

A flexible design was key to the new gallery, designed by lauded Bay Area-based architectural firm Gensler & Associates. Along with the need for transformative exhibition areas, office space, a library, archive and new media area were also requirements for the new Jessie Street locale. The end result is a masterpiece with a spectacular industrial-chic feel, the epitome of contemporary and modern design. And the perfect canvas for the cutting-edge artwork for which Frey Norris is known.

Clearly, Frey and Norris are beyond thrilled with their new home. “The realization and location of our new gallery space is both a signifier of our commitment to the cultural vitality of the Bay Area, as well as an opportunity to further promote Frey Norris’ unique specializations,” says Norris.

For more info, visit www.freynorris.com



Upcoming exhibits

Frey Norris is known for fostering new talent and working with more established artists from all corners of the world, as evidenced by its roster of upcoming exhibitions.

Reflected on Air

Zhong Biao

Zhong Biao has developed into an iconic Chinese artist; his imagery reproduced around the world in publications like *The Economist* and in conjunction with events like the recent World Cup in South Africa. This is Biao’s first solo show with Frey Norris since his American debut in 2007.

On view until June 25.

Absorption into the Nomadic and Luminous

Ranu Mukherjee

Ranu Mukherjee’s debut exhibition at Frey Norris unites two bodies of work; an exploration of the figure of the nomad as it manifests itself in both material and philosophical realms, and a meandering journey through an imagined personal history of relations between Indian and European/US culture.

On view from June 4-July 30.

Visitor Center

Mary Anne Kluth

Kluth is a Bay Area-based artist, curator and writer. This is her second exhibition with Frey Norris. Presented in the venerable tradition of the faux museum, Kluth’s photographs, paintings and sculptures literally and imaginatively unpack the rock collection amassed by her geologist father over four decades of travel across four continents.

On view from July 9-August 27.