



Art Market

# The Most In-Demand Artists Who Aren't Painters

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From gallery shows to the homes of art collectors, painting is always popular in the art world. The medium has held sway among buyers for almost as long as it has existed. And this is borne out in the data: Paintings sell at a higher volume and a higher price than other mediums by far, with nine of the 10 most expensive works ever sold at auction being paintings; and of the 50 most expensive works sold under the hammer this year, only two are *not* paintings.

So what does the art market look like without paintings? Here, we take a look at Artsy data to explore the most popular and in-demand artists who aren't primarily painters.

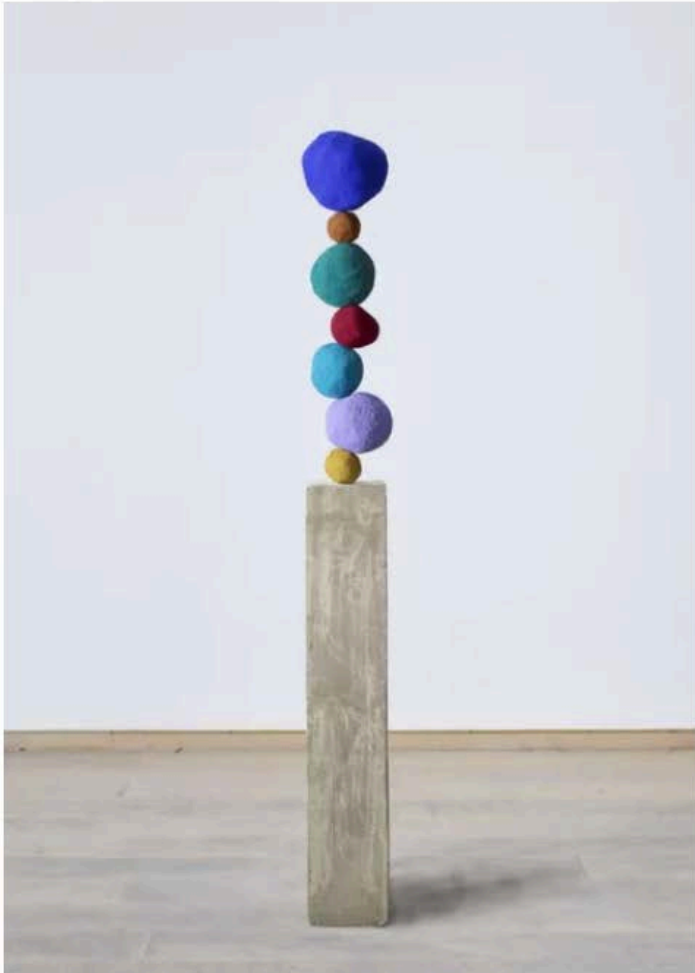


To help us understand the current moment in the art market for non-painters, we also pulled out artists who have experienced the largest percentage growth in inquirers on Artsy between January 2022–July 2022 and January 2023–July 2023. Of the top 100 artists with the most growth in inquirers on that list, 14 were not painters. That list is as follows:

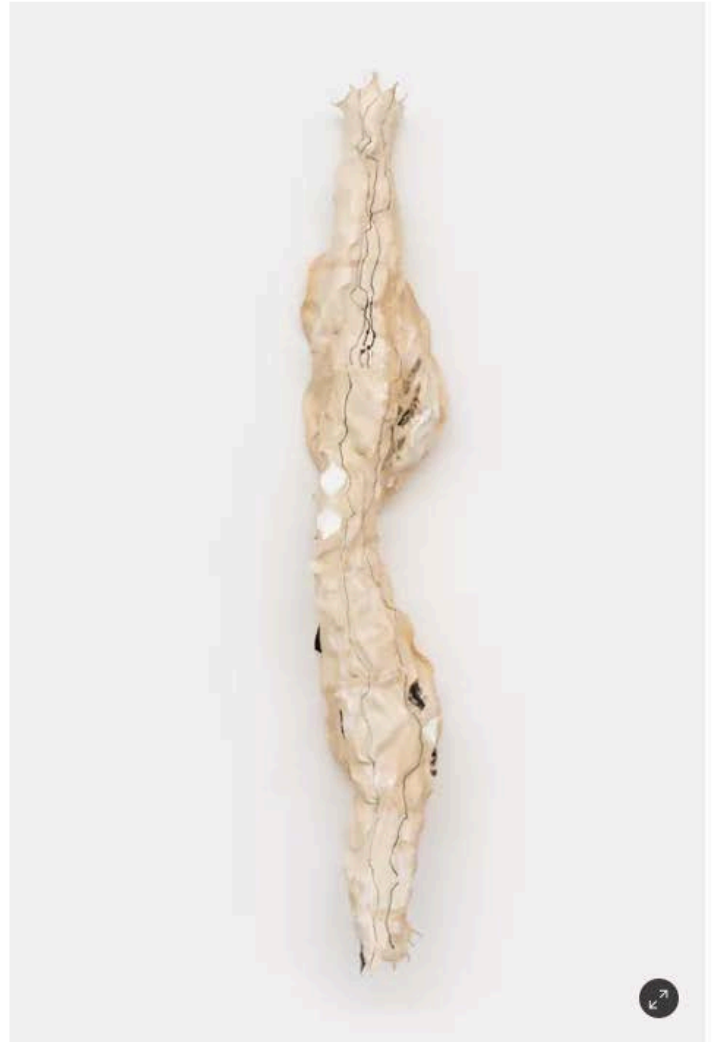
- [Annie.Morris](#)
- [Olafur.Eliasson](#)
- [Fan.Ho](#)
- [Alma.Berrow](#)
- [Faig.Ahmed](#)
- [Leandro.Erlich](#)
- [Albert.Watson](#)
- [Lynda.Benglis](#)
- [Gregory.Crewdson](#)
- [Melvin.L.Nesbitt.Jr.](#)
- [Isabel.Miramontes](#)
- [The.Haas.Brothers](#)

This list has a greater proportion of women artists—four total—as well as a greater number of sculptors, with six inclusions. This is followed by three photographers, one textile artist, one mixed-media artist, and one installation artist.

The list contains a mix of established names such as Fan Ho and Olafur Eliasson alongside more emerging artists such as Alma Berrow (a sculptor).



Annie Morris  
*Stack 7, 2018*  
Canvas Tube



Lynda Benglis  
*Double Albatross, 2014*  
Xavier Hufkens

Notably, ultra-contemporary sculptor Annie Morris displayed the highest percentage growth of these non-painters, with a 675% rise in inquirers year over year. This rise reflects the British artist's recent ascent at auction, where her "Stack" sculptures – made using foam and sand spheres covered in vibrant pigment – have sold consistently for six-figure sums over the past 18 months. The artist's current auction record was set in March 2022, when *Stack 10, Copper Blue* (2017) sold for £201,600 (\$270,076).

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