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Selected Works - The Charles Riva Collection Opening April 20, 2026

Brussels, Belgium — The Charles Riva Collection announces the opening of its Brussels space on April 20, 2026, marking a pivotal moment in the collection's evolution with the presentation of a significant body of newly acquired works. Installed within a refined modern domestic setting, the exhibition stages a rigorous and sustained dialogue between sculpture, painting, and photography while traversing the historical continuum between postwar and contemporary artistic production.

The exhibition also marks a collaboration with Quentin Grosjean, whose aesthetic sensibilities are in harmony with works in the collection. This presentation brings together key works by some of the most consequential artists of the 20th and 21st Centuries, reaffirming the collection's commitment to historically grounded and conceptually driven practices, with particular attention to the critical legacies of postwar American art. The exhibition foregrounds the productive tensions that animate contemporary discourse—between materiality and image, objecthood and representation, authorship and appropriation—while reflecting on the evolving conditions of visual culture.

Among the new principal acquisitions, on view for the first time, are works by Alexander Calder and Richard Prince, whose practices have each reconfigured the parameters of artistic form and cultural meaning. Calder's investigations into movement, balance, and spatial dynamism fundamentally transformed sculptural practice, giving rise to an expanded understanding of form as contingent, relational, and temporally activated. In contrast, Prince's *Untitled (joke painting)* mobilize language as both medium and subject, appropriating vernacular humor to expose the unstable conditions of authorship and the circulation of meaning within contemporary culture. By translating jokes into painted form, Prince foregrounds the slippages between text and image, positioning language itself as a site of both production and critique. In this context, his work establishes a productive counterpoint to Jenny Holzer's text-based practice, in which language assumes a declarative and public function, oscillating between inscription, authority, and affect.

The exhibition further reactivates key works by Donald Judd, Christopher Wool, Mike Kelley, George Rickey, Keith Haring, Andy Warhol, Josh Sperling, Paul McCarthy, Robert Mapplethorpe, and Steven Shearer. Taken together, these artists articulate a complex and heterogeneous field of postwar and contemporary production, encompassing minimalism, conceptual, pop, and photography. Their juxtaposition generates a dense discursive framework structured around seriality, repetition, linguistic inscription, identity formation, and the instability of meaning. Moreover, the collection demonstrates how living with art elevates and activates domestic spaces and creates unexpected focal points, and discourse.

Through a precise orchestration of spatial and conceptual relationships, the presentation invites viewers to consider the artwork as both an autonomous entity and a relational construct—operating across media, temporalities, and ideological positions. The domestic exhibition context serves not merely as a setting but as a critical device, collapsing distinctions between private and

public modes of reception, and foregrounding intimacy, proximity, and lived experience as integral to the act of viewing.

“This presentation reflects our continued dedication to building a collection that is both historically grounded, and forward-looking,” said Charles Riva, founder of the collection. “These acquisitions expand the intellectual and aesthetic narratives we seek to articulate, while reinforcing Brussels as a vital locus for contemporary artistic discourse.”

The exhibition will be on view at the Charles Riva Collection in Brussels beginning April 20, 2026. A program of guided visits will accompany the opening.

About the Charles Riva Collection

Founded in Brussels in 2009, the Charles Riva Collection is a private contemporary art collection with a strong emphasis on American postwar art. Its primary exhibition space is housed in Brussels within a modern townhouse designed by Marc Corbiau, where annual exhibitions are presented. Additional projects and exhibitions take place in New York, Paris, London, and Dubai. Dedicated to the presentation and preservation of significant works by leading international artists, the Collection contributes to the broader cultural landscape by fostering critical engagement and sustaining discourse in contemporary art.