

The Collectors

Bob Rennie



Named a top 200 contemporary art collector in the world by ARTnews, Bob Rennie's collection began modestly in 1974 with the purchase of the Norman Rockwell print, *On Top of the World*. Today the collection, comprising over 2,200 works by 370+ artists with more than 50 collected in depth, is shared with the community through free admission to exhibitions and programming at Rennie Museum, founded in 2009 in the oldest building in Vancouver's Chinatown. A former Chair of Tate Modern's North American Acquisitions Committee (2010-2016), Bob remains on the Executive Committee of the Tate International Council and the Tate Americas Foundation, and is a Trustee of the Art Institute of Chicago. In 2017, Bob made one of the largest donations of contemporary art received by the National Gallery of Canada. The \$12 million donation comprises 197 artworks by Geoffrey Farmer, Rodney Graham, Brian Jungen, Damian Moppett, Doris Salcedo and Ian Wallace.

Today, the Rennie Collection at his private museum, the Wing Sang, is one of the largest contemporary art collections in Canada, with roughly 2,200 works by some 370 artists, including John Baldessari, Mike Kelley, Christopher Wool and others. Among the most expensive works in his collection is Kerry James Marshall's *Untitled (Red, Black, Green)*, 2011-12, which is estimated to be worth \$26 million. (The artist's current auction record is \$21.2 million, set in May 2018 at Sotheby's New York when Marshall's 1997 painting *Past Times* was purchased by rapper P. Diddy). Rennie also waited ten years to acquire *Garden Party*, a 2003 painting by Marshall. In 2019, Rennie bought two Alice Neel works – *Nazis Murder Jews* (1936) and *Childbirth* (1939) – and pieces from LaToya Ruby Frazier's photographic series "The Notion of Family" (2001-14).