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NEWS RECAP: MAY 1, 2020

May 1, 2020 Kat Kiernan

A weekly recap of art world news.

FotoFocus Cancels Biennial, Donates Budget

FotoFocus, the largest photography biennial in the United States, has canceled its October event and pledged the entire budget to support the arts in the Midwest. The Cincinnati-based nonprofit will provide \$800,000 in immediate, unrestricted grants to over 100 of its participants and collaborators. Major institutions that will benefit include the Columbus Museum of Art and the Cincinnati Art Museum, as well as 15 academic institutions and other organizations.

Read the full story ([Hyperallergic](#))

Pérez Art Museum Miami Closed Through August, Cuts Over Half Its Staff

To keep social distancing practices in effect, the Pérez Museum Miami will remain closed until September. The museum estimates losses between \$3 million and \$5 million in revenue as a result, and has made significant staff cuts. Fifteen of the museum's 120 employees were terminated and another 54 furloughed. The remaining 49 staff members are taking salary cuts ranging from 5 to 15 percent.

Read the full story ([ArtNet News](#))

Howardena Pindell Sues Her Former Gallery for Years of Non-Payment

Artist Howardena Pindell has filed suit against her former dealer, George Richard N'Namdi and his son Jumaane, as well as seven of its related entities, and a collector, for lying about sales, non-payment, and refusing to return artworks. The amended lawsuit alleges "continuous systemic breach" of the parties' responsibilities towards the artist. N'Namdi showed the artist's work between 1987 and 2006 where they

sold works at substantial discounts and “created a maze of legal entities” to obscure transactions. Pindell is seeking the return of three works and at least \$500,000 in damages.

Read the full story ([ARTnews](#))