



GALLERIES

# ART ON DISPLAY

October art events showcase San Francisco's best —BY RENEE BRINCKS

San Francisco boasts an incredible variety of art installations, events and programs, and distinguished local galleries add another impressive layer to the city's thriving creative scene. Because some of the most well-known galleries are concentrated around Union Square, it's easy to discover the work of emerging and established artists in just a few hours.

If you have additional time to explore, North Beach, Jackson Square, SoMa and other neighborhoods promise plenty of options. In September, a trio of galleries relocated to Potrero Hill (see sidebar). Just a short stroll from San Francisco's Design District and cultural venues

such as the Museum of Craft and Design, San Francisco Center for the Book and California College of the Arts, this under-the-radar area escapes the notice of many visitors.

Whether you're right downtown or making your way through San Francisco's lesser-known neighborhoods, this time of the year is ideal for discovery.

"October is one of San Francisco's most beautiful months, so it's a great time to be out exploring, walking around the city streets, coming across galleries and just seeing what's out there," says Petra Schumann, executive director of the San Francisco Art Dealers Association (SFADA).

## Fab Four

Start your San Francisco art adventure with these four noteworthy galleries.

**BRIAN GROSS FINE ART** Since 1990, this gallery has featured contemporary paintings, photography, sculpture and works on paper created by emerging artists as well as established modern masters. The new Potrero Hill gallery features "Yesterday's Tomorrow" by Ed Moses through October 26. [briangrossfineart.com](http://briangrossfineart.com). 248 Utah St., 415.788.1050.

**CATHARINE CLARK GALLERY** Look for content-driven work by contemporary artists here, and don't miss a dedicated media room that pairs experimental video art with each exhibition. The inaugural show at the new Potrero Hill location, "This is the Sound of Someone Losing the Plot," is on display through October 26. [cclarkgallery.com](http://cclarkgallery.com). 248 Utah St., 415.399.1439.

**GEORGE LAWSON GALLERY** Two San Francisco gallery locations showcase contemporary paintings by international emerging and mid-career artists. The opening reception for a Jennah Ward exhibition takes place at the new Potrero Hill gallery on October 12. [georgelawsongallery.com](http://georgelawsongallery.com). 315 Potrero Ave., 415.703.4400. 780 Sutter St., 415.775.1635.

**MEYEROVICH GALLERY** This Union Square gallery specializes in American and European paintings, works on paper, sculptures, drawings and other pieces by modern masters and contemporary artists, including Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse and Helen Frankenthaler. [meyerovich.com](http://meyerovich.com). 251 Post St., 4th Fl., 415.421.7171.



George Lawson

### FIRST THURSDAY: OCTOBER 3

Enjoy a relaxed, self-guided tour of San Francisco's downtown galleries during this month's

First Thursday event, presented by the San Francisco Art Dealers Association (SFADA) on October 3. The popular monthly series has drawn collectors and enthusiasts to the city for two decades, and galleries

welcome guests with a mix of extended hours, meet-the-artist opportunities and receptions.

The informal atmosphere makes First Thursdays especially exciting for art novices, says SFADA

Executive Director Petra Schumann.

"A lot of new collectors feel self-conscious when they walk into a gallery," she explains. "It's easier when there are a lot of people out and about. You

can ask questions and it all feels a little more casual."

October's First Thursday highlights include an opening reception for Hunt Rettig's "Cracked & Absorbed" exhibition at Dolby Chadwick

Gallery and extended hours for Tomoko Konoike's "Earth-shine" and Laurel Roth's "Flight of the Dodo" at Gallery Wendi Norris. For maps and details, visit [firstthursdayart.com](http://firstthursdayart.com).