

Jo Baer Joins Pace Gallery

New York – Pace Gallery is pleased to announce its representation of Amsterdam-based, American-born painter Jo Baer. Over her six-decade-long career in painting, Baer has embraced and advanced a broad range of formal and conceptual pursuits after first emerging as a key figure among the Minimalists working in New York in the 1960s and 70s. In 1975, Baer left New York for Europe and began to introduce images to her paintings, pursuing a self-coined approach of “radical figuration,” which the artist has continued to advance in her work for over thirty years.

“It is with great pleasure that we announce our representation of Jo Baer. Jo is one of the pioneers who staked everything on a new vision of art in the late 1950s in reimagining the purpose and potential of painting.” said Marc Glimcher, Pace Gallery President and CEO. “Her rigorous and energetic compositions in the following decades paved the way for a radical transformation in the late 1970s. These blank paintings demonstrate the common wellspring of abstraction and representation which currently drives so much of the dialogue for painters of this generation. We are excited to bring the work of this great artist to a larger audience in group and solo exhibitions, internationally.”

Pace will present Baer’s work as part of *At the Edge of Things: Baer, Corse, Martin* from 7 June to 14 August at 6 Burlington Gardens, London. Focused on the artists’ deep engagement with perception and phenomenology, the exhibition will showcase Minimalist paintings from the early phase of Baer’s career, during which the artist utilized the optical effects of color, light and shadow, and the edges of the canvas to explore the nature of perception. Trained in Gestalt psychology, Baer’s early non-objective canvases emphasize the physiological experience of painting, while highlighting the illusory potential of a seemingly blank, or flat, space. However, in 1975, concerned with Minimalism’s ability to remain relevant in a changing world, Baer left New York and simultaneously took a radical departure from hard abstraction in favor of an image-based painting practice. Since settling in Amsterdam in 1984, Baer’s work has concentrated on large-scale compositions that straddle abstraction and figuration, integrating visual material, texts, found images and symbols in an uncompromising pursuit of painting’s formal and linguistic capacity to communicate meaning.

Prior to joining Pace, Baer was advised by Art Agency Partners. AAP provides advisory services for living artists as well as artists’ estates and foundations to guide them through all aspects of legacy planning and is committed to serving a broad range of artists including those who have been historically underrepresented.

Allan Schwartzman, Founder and Principal of AAP shared: “Having worked intensively with Jo Baer for a year and a half to create a long-term strategic plan for thoughtful stewardship of her great and important artistic and intellectual output

over the last 60 years, and to contextualize her singular and complexly varied art practice and legacy, we are so pleased for Jo to be represented in New York City and globally by such a storied and statured gallery as Pace."

Jo Baer (b. 1929, Seattle, Washington) has engaged in an ongoing commitment to painting for over five decades. In the 1960s and 70s, she explored non-objectivity in her black- and white-squared and rectangular Hard-edged paintings as part of the New York Minimalist movement. In 1975, she left New York for Europe, eventually settling in Amsterdam after years spent in Ireland and London. Through the course of her move to Europe, Baer's work shifted away from pure abstraction, gradually adding figural elements, text, images and symbols.

Baer has been the subject of one-artist exhibitions at institutions worldwide, including the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, in 1975; Van Abbe Museum, Eindhoven, Netherlands, in 1978 and 1986; the Dia Center for the Arts, New York, 2002; Secession, Vienna, 2008; Museum Ludwig, Cologne, in 2013; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, in 1986, 1999 and 2013; and Camden Arts Centre, London, in 2015. Significant recent group exhibitions include *Making Space: Women Artists and Postwar Abstraction*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, in 2017; *The Absent Museum*, WIELS, Brussels, Belgium, 2017; *Calder to Kelly, Die amerikanische Sammlung*, Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Switzerland, in 2017; Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, in 2016; *Drawing Dialogues: Selections from the Sol LeWitt Collection*, The Drawing Center, New York, in 2016; *Selections from the Permanent Collection*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, in 2014; the 31st São Paulo Biennale, Brazil, in 2014; and Busan Biennale, Busan Museum of Art, Korea, in 2012.

Her works are part of numerous public collections, such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Tate Gallery, London; and the Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main.

Pace is a leading contemporary art gallery representing many of the most significant international artists and estates of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

Under the leadership of President and CEO Marc Glimcher, Pace is a vital force within the art world and plays a critical role in shaping the history, creation, and engagement with modern and contemporary art. Since its founding by Arne Glimcher in 1960, Pace has developed a distinguished legacy for vibrant and dedicated relationships with renowned artists. As the gallery approaches the start of its seventh decade, Pace's mission continues to be inspired by our drive to support the world's most influential and innovative artists and to share their visionary work with people around the world. Pace advances this mission through its dynamic global program, comprising ambitious exhibitions, artist projects, public installations, institutional collaborations, and curatorial research and writing. Today, Pace has nine locations worldwide: two galleries in New York; one in London; one in Geneva; one in Palo Alto, California; one in Beijing; two in

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Hong Kong; and one in Seoul. Pace will open a new flagship gallery at 540 West 25th Street in New York in September 2019.

For **press inquiries**, please contact: Nico Smirnoff, Pace Gallery, nsmirnoff@pacegallery.com and Adriana Elgarresta, AElgarresta@pacegallery.com

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