

**Exhibition:** *Mark Grotjahn: 50 Kitchens*

**On view:** May 20, 2018–August 19, 2018

**Location:** BCAM, Level 3

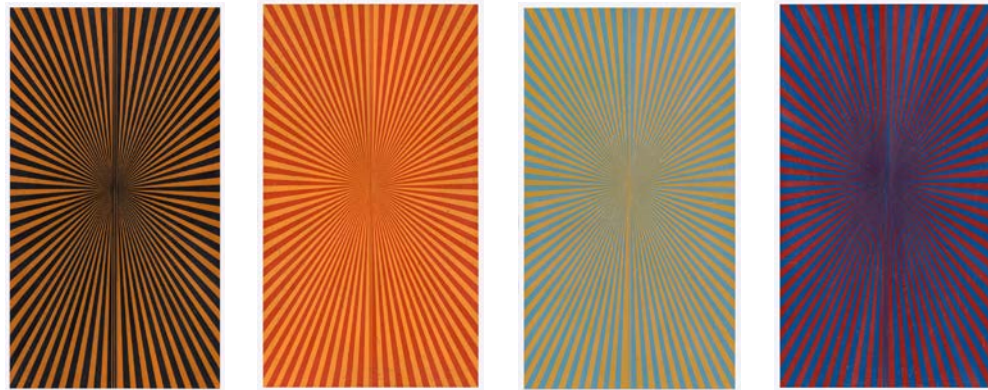


Image captions on page 3

(Los Angeles–May 22, 2018) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) presents *Mark Grotjahn: 50 Kitchens*, a single artwork by the Los Angeles-based artist, created over five years and exhibited for the first time at LACMA. *50 Kitchens* (2013–18) is the latest of the artist’s “Butterfly compositions” and takes its inspiration from a single composition (in black and cream-colored pencil) that Grotjahn made to meet the dimensional specifications of a wall in his kitchen. The more than 50 subsequent chromatic drawings explore pairs of radiating colors (like Tuscan Red and Chartreuse, or Grass Green and Canary Yellow) and together create a prismatic display.

The work alludes to artists interested in color, light, and optics, such as Wassily Kandinsky and the Op art painters of the 1960s, and also incorporates residual traces of earlier drawings that have been seamlessly integrated into the final rendering.

To create an ideal viewing space for the more than 350 feet of walls upon which the series of drawings are shown, the artist and curators are relying on the ample, subtly shifting natural light provided by the huge glass ceiling of the third floor of the Renzo Piano-designed Broad Contemporary Art Museum.

“Mark’s *50 Kitchens* is an exuberant display of color and form constructed in a systematic, long-term effort that creates an immersive environment,” said LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director Michael Govan. “The whole project is epic in

scale and equally intimate in its experience. One is drawn to the energy of a chance, tiny, single colored-pencil mark within the whole field of variable colors created by the series of more than 50 drawings throughout the large open gallery.”

### **About the Artist**

Mark Grotjahn was born in 1968 in Pasadena, CA. He received an MFA from the University of California, Berkeley, and a BFA from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He lives and works in Los Angeles. Grotjahn's work is included in museum collections worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; The Broad Art Museum, Los Angeles; SFMoMA, San Francisco; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh; Des Moines Art Center, Iowa; Cleveland Museum of Art, Ohio; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; Rubell Family Collection, Miami; François Pinault Collection, Venice; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Tate Modern, London; De La Cruz Collection Contemporary Art Space, Miami; Dakis Joannou Collection, Athens; and the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam.

Solo exhibitions include *Mark Grotjahn: Drawings*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2005), Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2006), Kunstmuseum Thun, Switzerland (2007), Portland Art Museum, Oregon (2010), and Aspen Museum of Art, Colorado (2012); *Mark Grotjahn: Sculpture*, Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas (2014); and *Circus, Circus*, Kunstverein Freiburg, Germany (2014). Major group exhibitions include Whitney Biennial 2006: *Day for Night*, New York; and the 54th Carnegie International, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (2004).

**Credit:** This exhibition was organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

All exhibitions at LACMA are underwritten by the LACMA Exhibition Fund. Major annual support is provided by Kitzia and Richard Goodman and Meredith and David Kaplan, with generous annual funding from Jerry and Kathleen Grundhofer, the Judy and Bernard Briskin Family Foundation, Louise and Brad Edgerton, Edgerton Foundation, Emily and Teddy Greenspan, Marilyn B. and Calvin B. Gross, David Lloyd and Kimberly Steward, David Schwartz Foundation, Inc., and Lenore and Richard Wayne.

### **About LACMA**

Since its inception in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography, mirroring Los Angeles's rich cultural heritage and uniquely diverse population. Today LACMA is the largest art museum in the western

United States, with a collection of over 135,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of art history from new and unexpected points of view. A museum of international stature as well as a vital cultural center for Southern California, LACMA shares its vast collection with the Greater Los Angeles County and beyond through exhibitions, public programs, and research facilities that attract over 1.5 million visitors annually, in addition to serving millions more through community partnerships, school outreach programs, and creative digital initiatives. LACMA's main campus is located halfway between the ocean and downtown, adjacent to the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum and the future home of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures. Dedicated to serving all of Los Angeles, LACMA collaborates with a range of curators, educators, and artists on exhibitions and programs at various sites throughout the County.

**Location:** 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. [lacma.org](http://lacma.org)

### **Image captions**

(Left) Mark Grotjahn, *Untitled (Orange and Black Butterfly 45.76)*, 2014, collection of the artist, © Mark Grotjahn, photo © Douglas M. Parker Studio; (Center, Left) Mark Grotjahn, *Untitled (Poppy Red and Yellowed Orange Butterfly 48.90)*, 2016, collection of the artist, © Mark Grotjahn, photo © Douglas M. Parker Studio; (Center, Right) Mark Grotjahn, *Untitled (Yellow Ochre and Muted Turquoise Butterfly 48.92)*, 2016, collection of the artist, © Mark Grotjahn, photo © Douglas M. Parker Studio; (Right) Mark Grotjahn, *Untitled (Crimson Red and Copenhagen Blue Butterfly 49.01)*, 2017, collection of the artist, © Mark Grotjahn, photo © Douglas M. Parker Studio

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