



## The 10 artists every art fan should know about

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Regardless of status—emerging, veteran, rediscovered—these artists deserve to be familiar to every contemporary art fan

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Making your way as an artist has always been tough, especially here in New York. Despite the hundreds of art galleries dotting Chelsea, the LES, Uptown and Brooklyn, as well the opportunities afforded by major museum surveys at the Whitney Museum, MoMA PS1 and the New Museum, contemporary artists have a hard time getting their work in front of the public—let alone achieving the money and fame of a Jeff Koons level of art stardom. Your first show could mean just that, of course, depending on luck, but it's more often the case that even artists who start out hot face, at best, a journeyman career, or at worst, art-historical oblivion. There are also artists who originally couldn't get arrested for their work suddenly being rediscovered; for the fortunate among them, this might happen during their lifetimes. Regardless of the situation, how good your art is has very little to do with how successful you are, and given the thousands of artists vying for a shot at immortality, it's easy to lose track of quality work. We've compiled this list of 10 artists at various stages of their careers whose efforts ought to be recognized by every true art aficionado.



### Hayley Silverman

Silverman's mixed-media works probe the evanescence of memory, experience and sensation, as well the gap between our desire to preserve the past for the present and the present for the future—and our actual ability to do so. In one recent piece, she filled a wheelbarrow with dozens of resin casts of sand dollars—those round hard remnants of sea urchin that wash up on the beach. Each was embedded with different nondescript items like nails, foreign coins and grains of rice. More recently, as part of MoMA PS 1's "Greater New York" show, she presented a series of small bowls, each containing plastic facsimiles of comfort foods—noodles, slices of bread—and kitsch figurines. Both serve to salve souls struggling to find some measure of contentment in the moments before time sweeps us into oblivion.

Hayley Silverman, *Serenity*, 2015  
Photograph: courtesy the artist