

Joanne Mattera Art Blog

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An Aggregate of Forces: 60 Women Artists Over 60

This has been a good time for women artists *d'un certain âge*. Despite the mindless cruelties of ageism in the art world and elsewhere, the rush to woo newly minted MFA-holding artists has slowed as dealers, curators, critics--and, yes, collectors--have come to appreciate those of us in it for the long haul. You need only consider the recent and current spate of exhibitions in New York City galleries and museums to see the interest in women artists, particularly those whose careers have spanned decades. My ongoing Mothers of Invention series has reported on several of these exhibitions, many of which include artists who are still working in the studio every day and exhibiting regularly.

Prologue

Being an artist over 60 (there, I said it), I decided to create a feature that focuses on my contemporaries. We are also mothers of invention. The artists I selected for *60 Women Artists Over 60* come from throughout the United States and a few from Canada, ranging in age from just-turned-60 to just-about-to-turn 90. We have been serious artists our entire adult lives. We comprise, then, the history of contemporary art. And since so many of us came of age during the Second Wave of the Women's Movement, feminism has informed our lives and work. The title, *An Aggregate of Forces*, comes from painter PE Sharpe, who acknowledges the strong women in her life. You'll see her work as you scroll.



Claire Seidl

All in All, 2017, oil on linen, 46 x 42 inches