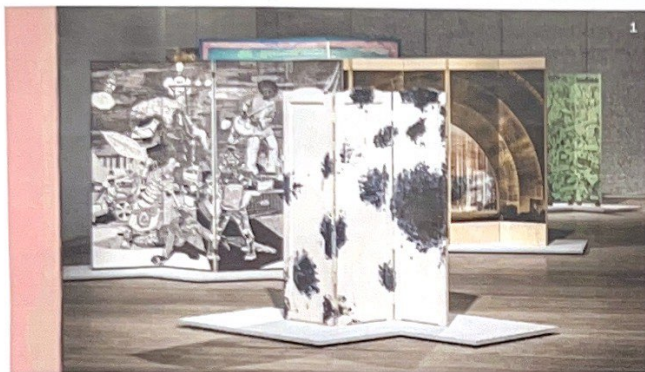


TOP TEN

## CHRIS BOGIA

Chris Bogia is a Queens, New York–based artist as well as the cofounder and former executive director of Fire Island Artist Residency (FIAR). (See contributors.)



1. View of "Paraventi: Folding Screens from the 17th to the 21st Centuries," 2023–24, Fondazione Prada, Milan. Foreground: Cy Twombly, *Paravent*, 1989. Photo: Delfino Sisto Legnani and Alessandro Saletta (DSL Studio). 2. KaMani Sutra performing at "Dragistan," Ice Palace, Cherry Grove, Fire Island, NY, July 30, 2023. Photo: Saunak Shah. 3. Jim Hodges, *Craig's Closet*, 2023, granite, bronze. Installation view, New York City AIDS Memorial Park. Photo: Daniel Greer. 4. Lisha Bai, *George's Window*, 2023, linen, ramie fabric, 96 1/2 x 49 1/2". 5. Prada Womenswear Spring/Summer 2024 runway show, September 21, 2023, Milan. Photo: Estrop/Getty Images.

1

**"PARAVENTI: FOLDING SCREENS FROM THE 17TH TO 21ST CENTURIES," FONDAZIONE PRADA, MILAN** This show at Mother Miuccia's temple of art and culture, curated by Nicholas Cullinan, takes up two floors of the space's largest exhibition halls and includes a historical survey of the titular objects as well as several newly commissioned works. My favorite one is by Magritte, which is shockingly more decorative than "surreal." Nonetheless, there are so many outstanding and surprising pieces by famous artists who made these objects as one-offs. Mrs. Prada should be *molto orgogliosa*.  
*On view through February 24.*

2

**"DRAGISTAN" (ICE PALACE, CHERRY GROVE, FIRE ISLAND, NY, JULY 30, 2023)** One of the best things about moving on from ten years as the executive director of FIAR—which I cofounded in 2011 with curator Evan Garza and my partner, Rod Sayegh—has been attending events as a spectator. This summer, I had the opportunity to see the residency's 2023 visiting scholar, Kareem Khubchandani, also known as LaWhore Vagistan, take over Fire Island's renowned Ice Palace nightclub and stage a joyous night of Southeast Asian drag. Khubchandani and his band of performers FLOORED IT that night, exposing the island to something totally new and wonderful. One by one, the queens (and kings) took to the stage and shared the kind of drag that folks in the States rarely, if ever, get to see, bringing Bollywood bangers to life for hundreds of screaming fans.

3

**JIM HODGES, CRAIG'S CLOSET, 2023** After decades of colorful, frequently dazzling works, Hodges's *Craig's Closet* interrupts the artist's kaleidoscopic

parade with a dark intermission. A doorless full-scale closet—made of charcoal-hued granite and bronze—was commissioned for the New York City AIDS Memorial Park. Every fiber of each exposed garment is meticulously rendered, the work a hyperreal shadow of an extremely private domain. When we lose someone close, their closet can become a site of surprising intimacy, a moving portrait of the dead. Positioned intentionally across from the former site of Saint Vincent's Hospital, *Craig's Closet* is a meaningful marker of deaths from AIDS during the worst years of the crisis.

4

**LISHA BAI, DEANNA EVANS PROJECTS, NEW YORK (2023)** Bai's exhibition featured four piecework fabric wall hangings rendering domestic interiors at dusk, a period when the artist's energies as a mother are transferred to her at-home studio. Executed in a gorgeous array of peaches and purples, the suspended works became the curtains and windows they depicted. Bai's visually generous art expertly merges the decorative with a bold sense of materiality. I felt the warmth of the light within them as if I were sitting there stitching with her, after the kids went to bed.

5

**PRADA SLIME** Miuccia Prada and Raf Simons, the codesigners at Prada, sent both their men's and women's Spring/Summer 2024 collections down aluminum-clad runways, which were flanked by viscous walls of tinted, transparent slime that dripped from ceilings into grated floors. I attended a private preview for the clothes and fell in love with an oversize, pale-peach men's shirt embellished with huge, handmade resin flowers that thoughtfully snap on and off for laundering. If I had the resources, I'd be wearing one while writing this.