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UMV:



Whether decorating with a collection of living local artists or celebrating the contribution of African and African-American artists, the background of said artist can have a direct effect on the finished product.

Join Mansion Global as we tour the personal art collections of two Miami-based collectors: real estate mogul Vanessa Grout and high-profile lawyer Alan Kluger.



Alan Kluger, a Miami lawyer who has handled celebrity divorce cases, including former baseball star Alex Rodriguez, lives in a condo formerly inhabited by Whitney Houston and Bobby Brown. Mr. Kluger is the founder and managing partner of Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen & Levine, P.L., as well as a grand founder of the University of Miami Sylvester Cancer Center.

He and his wife, retired judge Amy Dean, are shedding a portion of their Latin American collection to make room for African and African-American artists. Kluger says, "We were sitting on the balcony and she said, 'Are you having fun collecting art?' and I said, 'No,' and she said, 'Me neither. What do we do next?' and I said, 'Give me a couple weeks.'"



Derrick Adams, "Floater No. 18" 2016; Acrylic paint and collage on paper "There is less political overlay in the work of the [male artists]. The women in this group [of artists] say a lot about sexuality, and the men are more old-school figurative. This piece just jumped off the paper. He's phenomenal. I saw this from across the room and I said, 'I want it.' I'm glad we got it when we got it."



Trenton Hancock, "Finally!" 2016, Mixed media on canvas "The big news is he's going to be the showcase show at Mass MOCA next summer. He's created his own language, and he calls it a fantastical narrative. He makes up characters, superheroes, pop culture references. He is influenced by old-school Surrealists and he's a current day Surrealist. These artists [in my collection] didn't just pick up a piece of paper one day. They are influenced by all the great art. Picasso and the Cubists will tell you they are influenced by Cezanne. Paul McCartney will say he's influenced by Chuck Berry. These top musicians, they'll tell you they're copying [another artist's] sound but adding their own sound and their lyrics."



Tschabalala Self, "Untitled" 2016; Oil, fabric, and pigment on canvas "The women artists have an overlay of femininity and sexuality that gets added to race and other issues. She had a show in Naples Italy, and we said, 'Who is that?' We Googled her, and we went to her studio in New Haven [in Connecticut]. We have young grandchildren and we tried to get pieces that weren't graphic. She uses stuff that is thrown away by the garment industry. This piece has real human hair. We called the gallery that was representing her and said, 'Don't sell it!'"



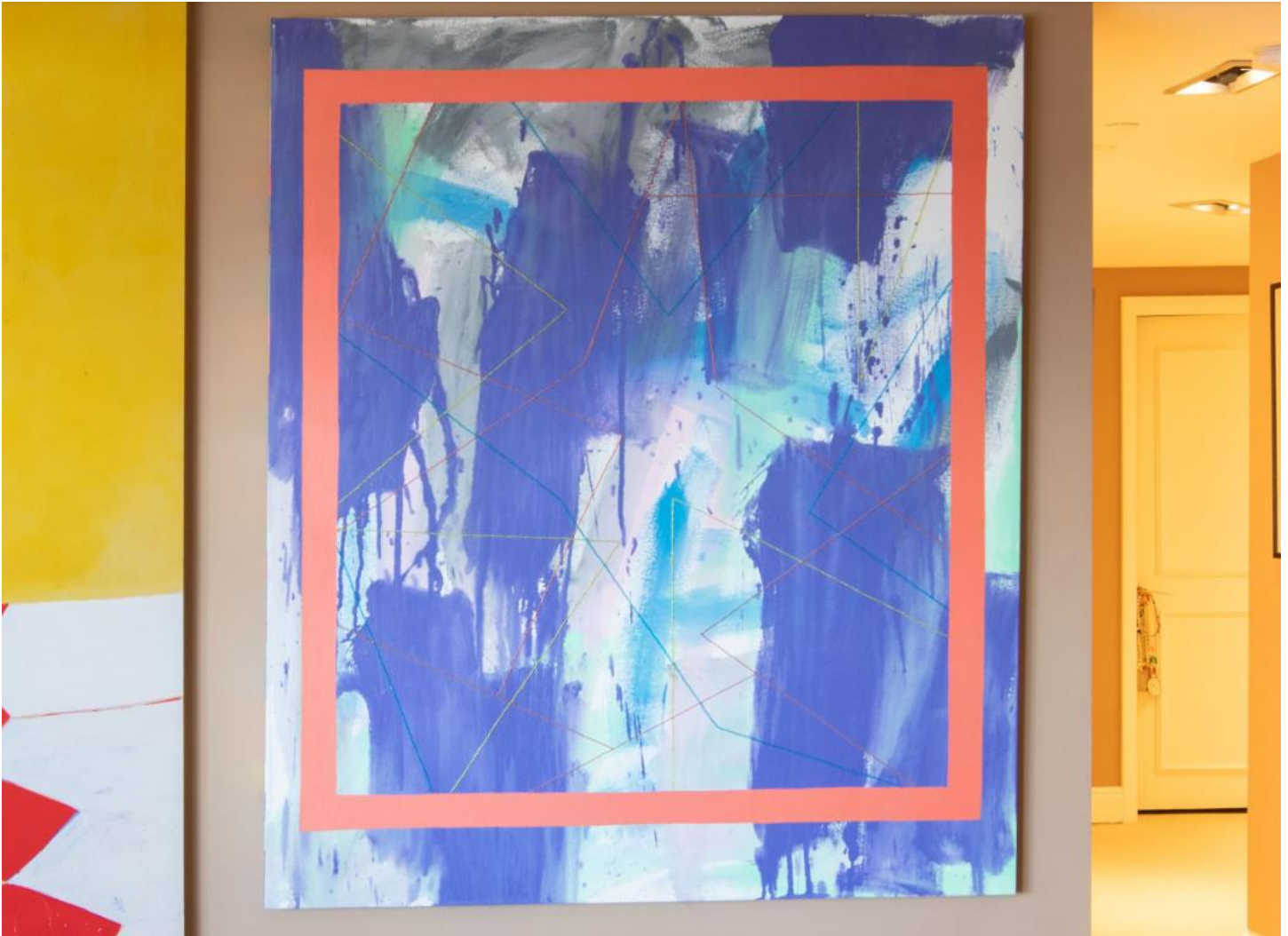
Yinka Shonibare, "The American Library Collection (artists)" 2017; 217 hardback books, Dutch wax printed cotton textile, gold foiled names, shelving card catalog Yinka Shonibare "was born in the U.K. and may be the most famous living artist there. His parents are Nigerian, and he uses African silk in everything he does, and the books are wrapped in it. He suffered a disease as a teen, and he's paralyzed on one side of his body and in a wheelchair. I called [the people who run the gallery] and said I want to commission him to do immigrant artists who fit his story. All the books here are titled after immigrant artists. These are legitimate books about art, so the Andy Warhol book is about Pop Art; the Barnett Newman is about Minimalism. The greatest stuff in every country comes from immigrants."



Mickalene Thomas, "Hair Portrait No. 16" 2013; Rhinestone and acrylic on panel "The best artists are those who were schooled in art. Picasso's father was probably the reigning art teacher in Europe, and by the time Picasso was 12 or 13 years old, he was painting people on horses. You can say, 'I like Pop Art and I like visual art like Keith Haring' and then you say, 'I will add Mickalene Thomas to that.' Mickalene puts rhinestones on the pieces and dresses them up. It's very Pop Art, feminist, [about] race and sexuality, so this piece we got is classic. She did it on enamel and painted the women's faces and dresses, and we fell in love with the piece."



Kehinde Wiley, "Passing/Posing 14" 2002; Oil on fabric "I really wanted an early Kehinde Wiley from when he was doing the painting. He's a Yale MFA, and this is a classic Kehinde Wiley. His highly naturalistic paintings have given him great fame as they address the image and status of young African-American men in contemporary culture." [Mr. Wiley is responsible for the portrait of Barack Obama at the National Portrait Gallery in London.]



McArthur Binion, "DNA: White Painting II" 2015; Oil, paint stick and paper on board "The Venice Biennale 2017 gave him his own room and finally recognized his spectacular work of many years. The right side is a photocopy of his phone book from when he was trying to make it in New York, and it has many artists friends of his from the 70s and 80s and Mary Boone and other dealers and their phone numbers, and the left side is birth certificates of the free men in his family, so it's his DNA series."