STATE OF THE ART
INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART SAN FRANCISCO

A new museum has slipped onto the Dogpatch scene with plans to shake things up. The Institute of Contemporary Art San Francisco (ICA SF) will push against museum tradition to transform the way contemporary art is curated and accessed. Ali Gass, the museum’s Krieger family director—formerly of the Smart Museum of Art, Cantor Arts Center and SFMOMA—shares the team’s motives and mission. icasanfrancisco.org

ICA SF is a non-collecting museum. Why? Managing a collection is a significant part of a museum’s operating budget. There’s been a real inequity as to which people have had access to museum careers, so it was important for us to have livable salaries and to pay artists well. We also want to look at the broadest narrative that we can tell, including artists who are BIPOC, women, nonbinary, from countries that are underrepresented in museums, or focus on issues not often explored.

What is the space like? It is 11,000 square feet on Minnesota Street. We worked with Jensen Architects and Min Design. E.B. Min and I partnered to do the buildout of the interior in this scrappy way, so you’ll see some drywall where the artists can exhibit their work, but not much more than that. The building is a fairly raw space.

What will visitors see? A strong cross-section of global rising-star artists who shine a light on what is happening in the world, including California and the Bay Area. We’re launching on October 1 with three projects. One is a solo exhibition, “This Burning World,” with Jeffrey Gibson, a MacArthur Foundation Fellow and Indigenous artist. We’re also hosting a guest-curated project by Autumn Breon and Tahirah Rasheed called “Resting Our Eyes.” And in the lobby space, Liz Hernández and Ryan Whelan are doing a meditation on the resiliency it takes to be an artist in the Bay Area (“A Weed by Any Other Name”).

SAVE THE DATE
THE SAN FRANCISCO FALL SHOW

After a two-year hiatus, one of San Francisco’s most anticipated fall events returns in person. “This year, we are celebrating the 40th anniversary of The San Francisco Fall Show—our very own Ruby Jubilee!” says chair Suzanne Tucker. “Rubies are thought to possess an inner flame, symbolizing passion, devotion and endurance. What could be more apt for the longest running art, antiques and design fair on the West Coast?” The show runs October 13–16, with a dazzling Opening Night Gala at Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture on October 12 benefiting the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. About 50 dealers from around the world will exhibit at this year’s event, offering for sale American, English, Continental and Asian furniture, decorative objects and art—from antiquity to present day. In honor of the Ruby Jubilee, the show will embrace all shades of red. sffallshow.org