

## Glenn Kaino: *Bridge (Raise Your Voice in Silence)*

May 20 – June 11, 2022  
540 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York



Glenn Kaino, *Bridge*, 2013-14 © Glenn Kaino Studio, courtesy Pace Gallery

New York – Pace is pleased to detail Glenn Kaino’s first solo exhibition with the gallery since he joined the program in 2021. Presented on the seventh floor of the gallery’s 540 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street space in New York from May 20 to June 11, the show will spotlight a single large-scale installation that reflects Kaino’s decade-long collaboration with Olympic track and field athlete Tommie Smith. The exhibition, coinciding with Frieze New York, will mark Kaino’s first solo show in the city since 2003, and it will highlight the artist’s boundary-pushing and rigorous investigations into art’s potential to catalyze change. Kaino has explored issues related to equity, climate change, and other urgent topics in his paintings, sculptures, monumental public artworks, installations, and films. His art often examines the ways that empathy and subjectivity can help dismantle oppressive power structures and affect real change.

Known for his multidisciplinary, activist-minded practice, Kaino’s work incorporates disparate ideas, systems, media, and art historical points of reference, with a focus on social justice and dialogue. In his first exhibition with Pace, the artist will present the sculpture *Bridge (Raise Your Voice in Silence)* (2021) suspended from the gallery’s ceiling. The work features a series of repeating casts of Smith’s arm, immortalizing his storied human rights salute after winning the gold medal in the 200-meter men’s race at the 1968 Olympic Games. Immersive and rhythmic, this 50-foot-long installation speaks to the enduring impact of the Olympian’s historic protest, which has reverberated through time and space, while proposing a physical and metaphorical path forward. Drawing connections between activism and protest movements of the past and present, *Bridge (Raise Your Voice in Silence)* exemplifies Kaino’s commitment to collaboration and his belief that cultural production can inspire progressive change in the current moment.

“I think one of the most important roles of an artist is to imagine new futures, to think about what we can become as a society and to use their work to inspire change,” Kaino said in a 2021 interview with Smithsonian American Art curator Sarah Newman. *Bridge* (2013-14), the first and largest-scale work from the series, will go on view at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C. in 2023 as part of the institution’s permanent collection.

Smith’s achievements have been the subject of other works by Kaino, including the recent Pass the Baton NFT project, which launched in December 2021 and will comprise a total of 7,872 minted NFT batons at its completion. These batons pay homage to Smith’s athletic career and legacy—each of the aesthetically unique NFTs bears the

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names of prominent activists, advocates, and changemakers alongside Smith's, with every name linking to a respective nonprofit organization focused on social justice. Facilitating a generative and enduring crypto-giving structure by directly funding activists and nonprofit organizations working towards systemic change in the US, the project reimagines the sustainability of philanthropy and harnesses blockchain technology for change. Partner organizations include Color of Change, the National Black Justice Coalition, the Advancement Project, the NAACP, Until Freedom, and the New Georgia Project, among others.

As part of Kaino's exhibition at the gallery, Pace Live will present a one day, in-person event bringing together a community of musicians, artists, and spokespeople for Pass the Baton partner organizations. Set to take place at Pace's New York gallery on May 20, Pass the Baton: A Gathering will present an opportunity for sharing experiences and creating new networks for social change.

Concurrently with Pace's exhibition, Kaino, in partnership with *The Atlantic* and Superblue, has created and directed a large-scale, immersive show that will inspire audiences to reimagine their relationship to the natural world. Over the last year, Kaino has been working alongside an interdisciplinary collective of artists, musicians, tribal leaders, and environmentalists to produce this work, which is set to open in Los Angeles in May 2022. Kaino is the co-curator of the Hammer Museum's forthcoming Pacific Standard Time exhibition *Breath(e): Towards Climate and Social Justice*, and Kaino's newly commissioned public works for LA's 6th Street Viaduct and MTA LAX Metro Connector will be unveiled in 2024 and 2025, respectively.

**Glenn Kaino** (b. 1972, Los Angeles, California) is known internationally for his expansive vision and activist-minded practice, which encompasses painting, sculpture, installation, performance, monumental public art, theatrical production, and feature film. Focusing on equity, social justice, and climate change, among other urgent topics, the artist's work traces through lines among various art historical movements, including Arte Povera, Conceptualism, and performance art. A relentless optimist, Kaino creates work imbued with hope, revealing structures of power and domination and creating opportunities for direct action and progress, all rooted in the belief that cultural production can affect real change. Kaino often highlights the illusionistic and mesmeric effects of scientific and natural phenomena in his large-scale installations to explore notions of empathy and subjectivity and to bring legibility to the often-invisible forces that shape our world.

**Pace** is a leading international art gallery representing some of the most influential contemporary artists and estates from the past century, holding decades-long relationships with Alexander Calder, Jean Dubuffet, Barbara Hepworth, Agnes Martin, Louise Nevelson, and Mark Rothko. Pace enjoys a unique U.S. heritage spanning East and West coasts through its early support of artists central to the Abstract Expressionist and Light and Space movements.

Since its founding by Arne Glimcher in 1960, Pace has developed a distinguished legacy as an artist-first gallery that mounts seminal historical and contemporary exhibitions. Under the current leadership of President and CEO Marc Glimcher, Pace continues to support its artists and share their visionary work with audiences worldwide by remaining at the forefront of innovation. Now in its seventh decade, the gallery advances its mission through a robust global program—comprising exhibitions, artist projects, public installations, institutional collaborations, performances, and interdisciplinary projects. Pace has a legacy in art bookmaking and has published over five hundred titles in close collaboration with artists, with a focus on original scholarship and on introducing new voices to the art historical canon.

The gallery has also spearheaded explorations into the intersection of art and technology through its new business models, exhibition interpretation tools, and representation of artists cultivating advanced studio practices. Pace's presence in Silicon Valley since 2016 has bolstered its longstanding support of experimental practices and digital artmaking. As part of its commitment to technologically engaged artists within and beyond its program, Pace launched a hub for its Web3 activity, Pace Verso, in November 2021.

Today, Pace has ten locations worldwide including a European foothold in London and Geneva, and two galleries in New York—its headquarters at 540 West 25th Street, which welcomed almost 120,000 visitors and programmed 20 shows in its first six months, and an adjacent 8,000 sq. ft. exhibition space at 510 West 25th Street. Pace was one of

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the first international galleries to establish outposts in Asia, where it operates permanent gallery spaces in Hong Kong and Seoul, as well as an office and viewing room in Beijing. In 2020, Pace opened satellite exhibition spaces in East Hampton and Palm Beach, with continued programming on a seasonal basis. In 2022, the gallery opened its west coast flagship in Los Angeles, and continues to operate its gallery in Palo Alto.

Press Inquiries

Adriana Elgarresta  
Director of Public Relations  
aelgarresta@pacegallery.com  
+1 305 498 1649

Claire Hurley  
Public Relations Manager  
churley@pacegallery.com  
+1 703 901 1960

Emily Kopp  
Public Relations Associate  
ekopp@pacegallery.com  
+1 516 426 4146

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