



BACK TO THE FUTURE:
Artist Max Vadukul on his home turf in New York City

ESCAPING DIGITALLY

Skype—and 212 Gallery artist Max Vadukul—made it possible for artist Ai Weiwei, detained by Chinese authorities, to turn his art vision into a reality. Vadukul, a contemporary photographer, helped direct the shoot on site in New York City, while Ai watched and critiqued over the Internet. Catch this original work in *W Magazine's* November issue.

212 GALLERY, 525 E. Cooper Ave., 970-925-7117. 212gallery.com



MIX 'N' MATCH

Artist and collector **Lora Drasner** brings her eclectic eye to Aspen

Art collectors who like to mix things up will enjoy the newly opened Drasner Gallery on East Hyman, an Aladdin's cave of two- and three-dimensional pieces curated by artist and collector Lora Drasner. Drasner splits her time between Miami and Aspen, where the attractive blonde and her husband, Fred, recently purchased a home just outside of town. Housing an eclectic selection of her own work alongside up-and-comers and household names—lithographs of Picasso, Chagall, Matisse—the Drasner Gallery has one common thread: happy, upbeat art.

Drasner's latest acquisition is a handblown glass chess set by award-winning glass designer Kit Karbler. A board game, table, and sculpture all in one, it would be an ideal Christmas gift for the man who has it all. Drasner clearly loves hers: "I have a running game with my gallery neighbor," she says. "He is currently in check!"

Drasner didn't consciously think about filling a market niche in Aspen's art world when she opened her doors in August. "I wasn't competing against anyone; I just wanted to share art that I love and that's beautiful," she says. Perhaps that explains why the Drasner Gallery has differentiated itself by presenting an array of work that feels more like a private collection. Check it out for yourself this December 17 at the opening reception for artist McKay Otto; known for his deceptive use of light and dark, he is regarded by some as the next Rothko.

Drasner Gallery, 520 E. Hyman Ave., 970-920-3500. drasnergallery.com



HIGH MOUNTAIN ART

Look out for Mark Grotjahn's limited-edition lift tickets

Aspen Art Museum is reaching new heights—literally. This year, paintings of nationally renowned artist Mark Grotjahn's mask sculptures will be featured on a limited number of lift tickets on President's Day weekend at no additional charge. Those who don't snag one can view the five original sculptures, each at a different location: on top of Ajax, Buttermilk, Highlands, and Snowmass, and at the Aspen Art Museum.

Known for his playful use of geometry and unsettling marriage of abstract and figurative elements, Grotjahn's style can appear rigidly formal at first glance. But a closer look reveals that his surfaces are often composed of expressionistic underpainting and layers. The Aspen Art Museum will host a public reception for the artist on February 16. *The exhibit runs through April 29.*

Aspen Art Museum, 590 N. Mill St., 970-925-8050. aspenartmuseum.org