

Art world rejoices in Biden's win of US presidency

Artists, collectors, policy makers and gallery owners share their reactions after the tightly fought election

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"The frogs have managed to jump out of the boiling pot just in time," the artist Martha Rosler told The Art Newspaper Photo: Martha Rosler

From Los Angeles to New York, thousands of Americans took to the streets to celebrate Joseph Biden's victory in the US election on Saturday, as his slowly growing lead in Pennsylvania finally secured him the necessary Electoral College votes to win the presidency, and remove Donald Trump from office after a single term. There was a similar

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outpouring of positive reactions from the art world for the new President-Elect and his running mate, former California senator Kamala Harris—along with caveats that there are still pressing issues that need to be resolved across the country. "The frogs have managed to jump out of the boiling pot just in time," the artist Martha Rosler told *The Art Newspaper*, sharing the photo collage she made, above.

More than anything else, the 2020 US election had become a referendum on Trump's term and impact on American life, and a decision about what path voters hope the country will take going forward. "We still must come to terms with the extent to which the structures of governance have been damaged and the government itself delegitimated—wantonly and steadily—by Donald Trump and the third-rate bottom feeders whom he empowered as his wrecking crew," Rosler added. "In the midst of an intensifying pandemic, increasingly dire effects of global warming, a many faceted economic collapse affecting ordinary people while corporations and billionaires thrive, and an undeniable threat from the white supremacists, racists, and fascists Trump has encouraged, we are trying to knit together our fractured sense of time and being, to prepare ourselves for the collective tasks ahead." But Rosler ended her comments on a positive note, telling Biden-Harris supporters to "take this moment of self-liberation to discover the sense of joy in ourselves and in the movements of support and solidarity we have built in struggle and opposition, and to appreciate what we have accomplished. We can breathe."