



## How to Become an Art Collector: A GQ Primer

Photography by Matthu Placek



Andrew Kuo and his cat Prometheus at work in Kuo's N.Y.C. studio.

*New Artists We Love*

### **Andrew Kuo**

Beer, Bands, Sports—and a New Spin on Art

**Born:** Flushing, Queens

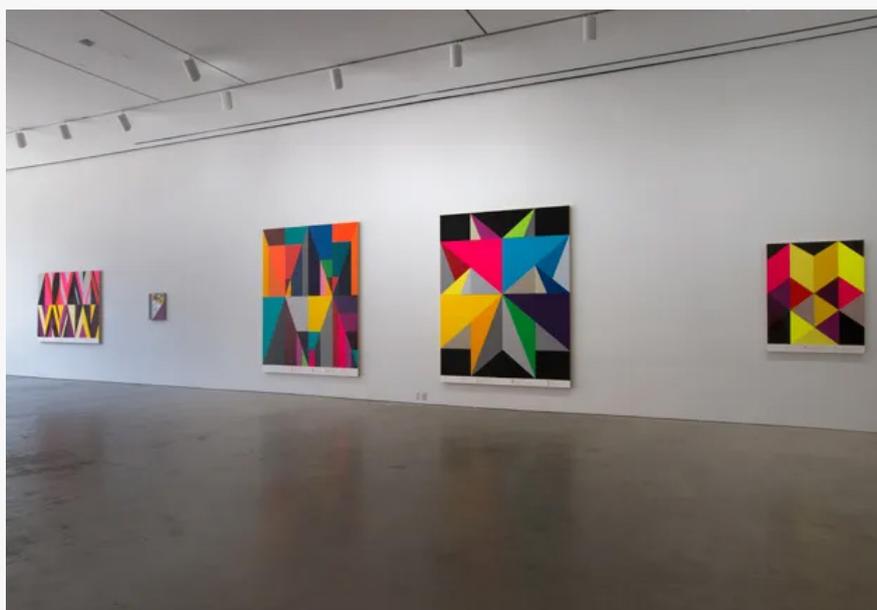
**Lives:** Lower East Side, N.Y.C.

**What Kuo Makes:** Bright, impressively sized “color chart” paintings and smaller, quieter self-portraits. Hand-screened T-shirts, often incorporating '90s bands (Superchunk, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony), Budweiser (“There Will Be Bud”), or the NBA (James Harden and Jeremy Lin as Beavis and Butt-head).

**His Chops:** Rhode Island School of Design; then, in 1999, moved to Lower Manhattan, where he worked as an illustrator.

QG, October 2013

# Tanya Leighton



Andrew Kuo, installation view from his 2013 show *\_You Say Tomato\_* at Marlborough Chelsea.

**The Work:** Kuo's recent show *\_You Say Tomato\_* focused on his razor-sharp, opulent color charts (see #3 above). While at first they might seem like purely visual explorations, a closer look reveals they're actually more like "emotion charts"—each piece is Kuo's carefully plotted attempt to map his feelings. We follow along via a key: One color represents the thought "I like the idea of people, but not the idea of spending time with them." Another corresponds to "My waking life is bookended by two beers."

Kurfürstenstraße 156, 10785 Berlin

+49 (0)30 21 972 220, [info@tanyaleighton.com](mailto:info@tanyaleighton.com), [www.tanyaleighton.com](http://www.tanyaleighton.com)

# Tanya Leighton



Andrew Kuo, *Jeremy Lin #17* (2012).

**Kuo On Painting Himself:** “I’m usually making these geometric paintings, but I hate to waste paint. So I keep a canvas next to me that I use to wipe my brushes. Slowly the wipes morphed into their own thing—thoughts piling up—and, being the egomaniac I am, I started adding a pair of glasses, so they became self-portraits.”

**\*\*Get a Kuo in Your Life: \*\***At **Marlborough Chelsea**, color charts range from \$15K to \$50K; smaller paintings are about \$4K. Or just follow him on Instagram (@earlboykins), where he posts zany found photos, often of pets. Also:

*The New York Times*’s ArtsBeat blog, where he charts albums and songs. (We say: Print one out, frame it, hang it.)—A.N.

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