

# The New York Times

FALL PREVIEW

## Modernism Reboots at the Museums

Our critic hails the return of MoMA, and nine ambitious autumn art shows.

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### ‘30 Americans’



Henry Taylor's "The Long Jump by Carl Lewis," 2010. Credit via Rubell Family Collection, Miami

Modeling its title on the Modern's "Americans" shows of the 1950s, this prescient exhibition of 30 American artists of African descent originated 10 years ago in Miami at the upstart Rubell Family Collection (soon to be the Rubell Museum). Since then it has toured to 16 museums nationwide accruing near-legendary status. The Barnes Foundation stop this fall brings it closest to New York. The artists range across three generations, from Robert Colescott (1925-2009) to the biting work of Nina Chanel Abney, and includes Mickalene Thomas, David Hammons, Xaviera Simmons, Kerry James Marshall and Henry Taylor. In the years since "[30 Americans](#)" opened, it has become undeniable that African-

American artists are making much of the best American art today. It's also clear that this show could be redone with an entirely different, mostly new group and be just as good — if not better.

[Barnes Foundation](#), Philadelphia, Oct 27-Jan 12; [barnesfoundation.org](#).