I like to think that when you leave the room, the art leaves the room. Art is about your own possibilities as a human being. It’s about your own excitement, your own potential, and what you can become. It affirms your existence.
—Jeff Koons

Gagosian is pleased to present an exhibition of recent and new work by Jeff Koons.

Making use of conceptual constructs including the ancient, the everyday, and the sublime, Koons creates luxurious icons and elaborate tableaux, which, beneath their captivating exteriors, engage the viewer in a metaphysical dialogue with cultural history.

Koons draws attention to the continuity of images as they pass through time. The *Gazing Ball* series is grounded in distinctive narratives and art-historical precedents—from ancient classical
sculpture to Rubens and Manet. In each work, a blue mirrored, hand-blown glass gazing ball—a convention from eighteenth century garden design—reflects its surroundings, uniting painting, sculpture, and architecture in order to multiply sensory experience. Balanced on the shoulder of Hercules, or introducing a dose of the surreal to the suburban harmony of a row of mailboxes, each gazing ball reactivates and intensifies familiar scenes, whether from legend or the everyday.

The *Celebration* sculptures—as well as later works that expand upon their visual dialogue—made with mirror-polished stainless steel in layers of transparent color coating, epitomize Koons’s ongoing fascination with childlike consciousness and communication. *Sacred Heart (Blue/Magenta)* (1994–2007) magnifies the excitement of receiving a lavishly wrapped gift, and *Balloon Rabbit (Magenta)* (2005–10) transforms a balloon animal into a towering wonder of reflective curves. Mirror-polished voids swell to a giant scale, their converging twists and contours drawing the gaze into multiple vanishing points. The sculptures conflate the readymade and the monumental, transforming humble objects into abstract symbols of transcendence and the biological, reflecting and affirming viewers and their environments.

In *Ballerinas* (2010–14) from the Antiquity series, Koons depicts figurines of dancers, derived from decorative porcelain, at the imposing scale of classical sculpture. Their delicate details and subtle color gradations, rendered in luminous, transparent color, present—somewhat paradoxically—as lessons in immaterial abstraction.


On April 29th, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles will honor Koons at their 2017 annual gala.
**Image:** *Ballerinas*, 2010–14, mirror-polished stainless steel with transparent color coating, 100 × 70 × 62 inches (254 × 177.8 × 157.5 cm) © Jeff Koons.

For further information please contact the gallery at losangeles@gagosian.com or at +1.310.271.9400. All images are subject to copyright. Gallery approval must be granted prior to reproduction.

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