

# Power 100

Most influential people in 2024 in the contemporary artworld

55



**Josh Kline**

Artist - Zeitgeist-tracking critic of contemporary culture  
55 in 2024

After last year's retrospective at the Whitney, New York, put Kline's zeitgeist-tracking art firmly in the spotlight, it's unsurprising that he's been thinking about himself. *Mid-Career Artist* (2024) – the most Instagrammed element of his selfie-culture-critiquing New York show *Social Media* at Lisson, which he recently joined – expands the American artist's roster of precarity-inhabiting human subjects rendered as hyperrealist sculptures and tucked, like trash, into clear plastic bags. In his current show at MoCA LA, Kline laid out what we're ignoring while staring at our phones: *Climate Change* (2018–) is a sculptural installation imagining a near-future dystopia following catastrophic sea-level rises. On-the-nose and technically neophilic – from deepfakes to state-of-the-art 3D-printing – Kline's art is arguably the clearest and most unnerving artistic articulation of where we're going as a species, and how human dignity is steadily lost in the process. An influence that is felt across the globe, too, with showings at the 8th Yokohama Triennale, the 24th Biennale of Sydney and Rome's Aishti Foundation.