

LADDIE JOHN DILL

CalArts Light, 2018
Glass tubing and argon gas
50 inches × approximately 0.5 inch
Powder-coated steel box frame: 51 × 5 × 6 inches
Edition of 12 with 4 APs (each unique)
Pictured: Edition: 3/12 (Available 3, 4, 8, 9, 12)
Hand signed and numbered
Published for CalArts by Lisa Ivorian-Jones
Photo: Joshua White / JWPictures.com

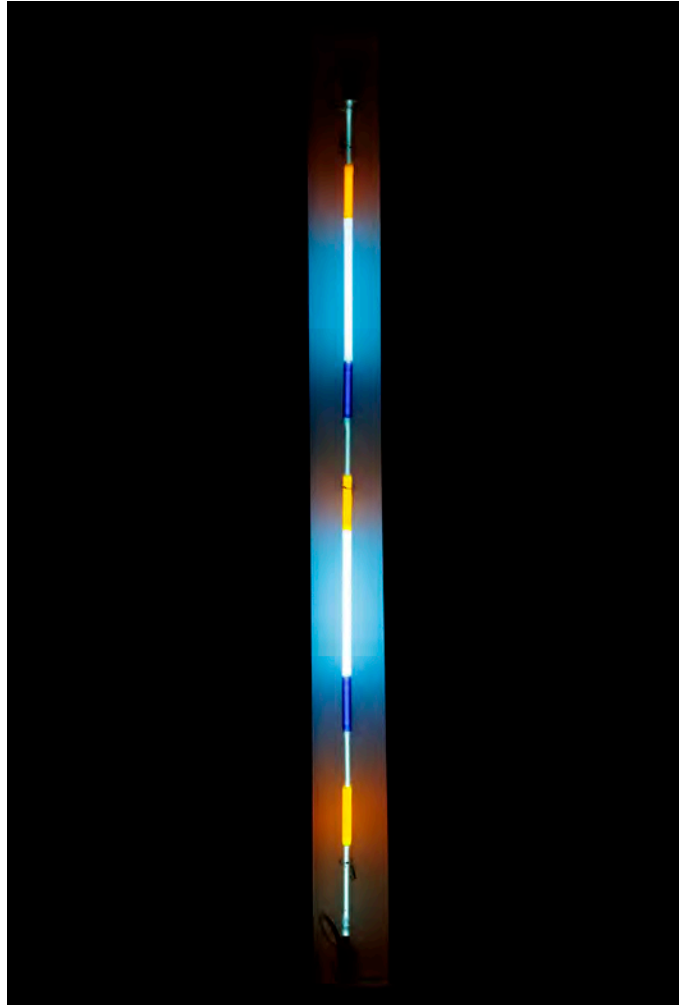
\$15,000

Laddie John Dill's (Chouinard BFA 1968) gorgeous artwork series for *50+50*, *CalArts Light*, 2018, which the artist refers to as a "*Light Sentence*" is made from neon tubes filled with argon and mercury, which are multicolored and fashioned by Dill's hand.

Dill began his career in the late sixties as part of the California Light and Space Movement, by experimenting with materials developed for fields other than the arts, such as neon lights, more aptly described as luminescent tubes charged with argon or mercury, and aluminum of the 6061 type, which are most commonly used in the airplane industry. Dill has been crafting light and earthly materials like concrete, glass, sand, and metal into luminous sculptures, wall-pieces, and installations since the 1970s. Referring to his choice of materials, Dill explains, "I was influenced by [Robert] Rauschenberg, Keith Sonnier, Robert Smithson, Dennis Oppenheim, and Robert Irwin, who were working with earth materials, light, and space as an alternative to easel painting." When Dill does use canvas, he paints with pigments derived from cement and natural oxides. Introducing these materials to the art world, Dill has said, "I am a painter who works with the typical materials of sculpture. I use rough and raw materials in a poetic sense."

Dill has exhibited his *Light Sentences* and *Light Plains* sculptures in institutions across the U.S.A. and globally, and a resurgence of interest in these pieces has occurred in the last decade as well, including a recent acquisition of a *Light Plains* sculpture by the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and of a *Light Sentence* sculpture by the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles.

New York Times art critic and writer Ken Johnson has said, "At the end of the 1960s the West Coast Light and Space artist Laddie John Dill began producing electric light works out of custom-made, blown-glass tubes in a lush palette of jewel-bright colors... Some are made of many short pieces, some of longer parts and fewer colors. They glow beautifully like strings of illuminated glass beads. Mr. Dill called these works *Light Sentences*, likening the segments of color to words grouped in phrases and sentences. This suggests that light itself could be a transcendental language. But the effect of these works in concert is less verbal and more like trippy visual chamber music."



Inquiries and Sales information:

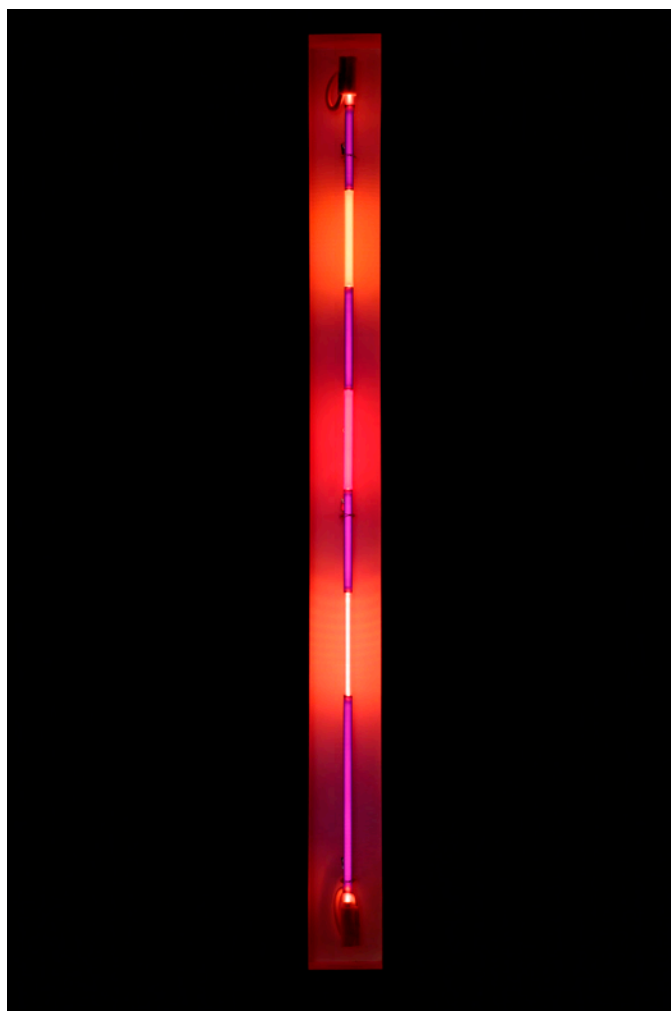
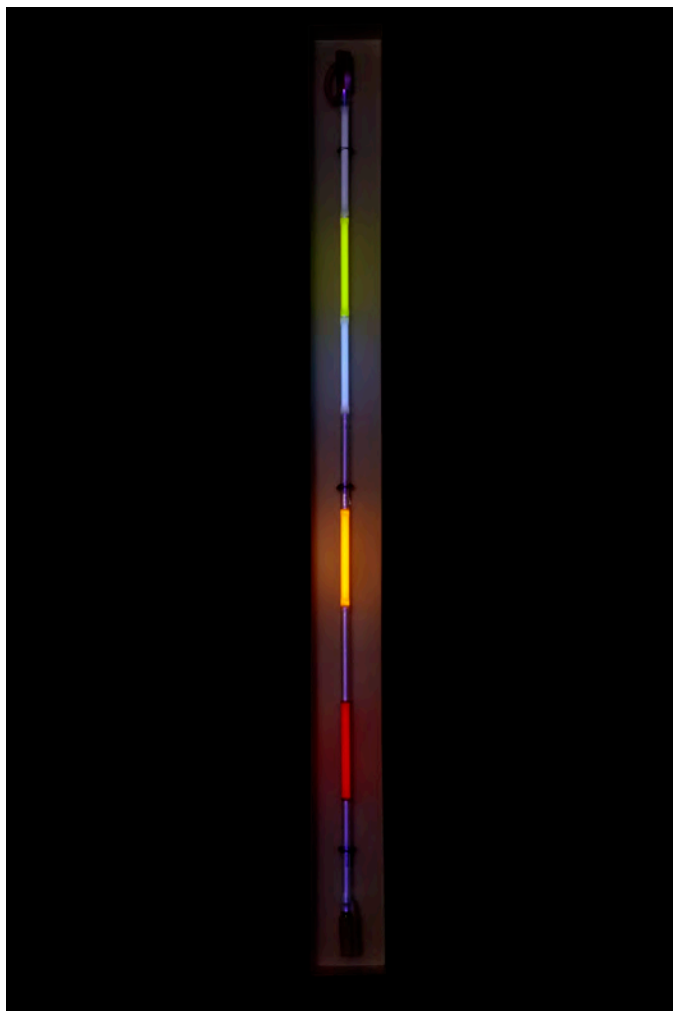
Ivorian-Jones Fine Art, Producer, CalArts 50+50 Initiative
Lisa Ivorian-Jones | email: inquiries@ivorianjones.com | tel: (212) 229 - 6762
50plus50.calarts.edu

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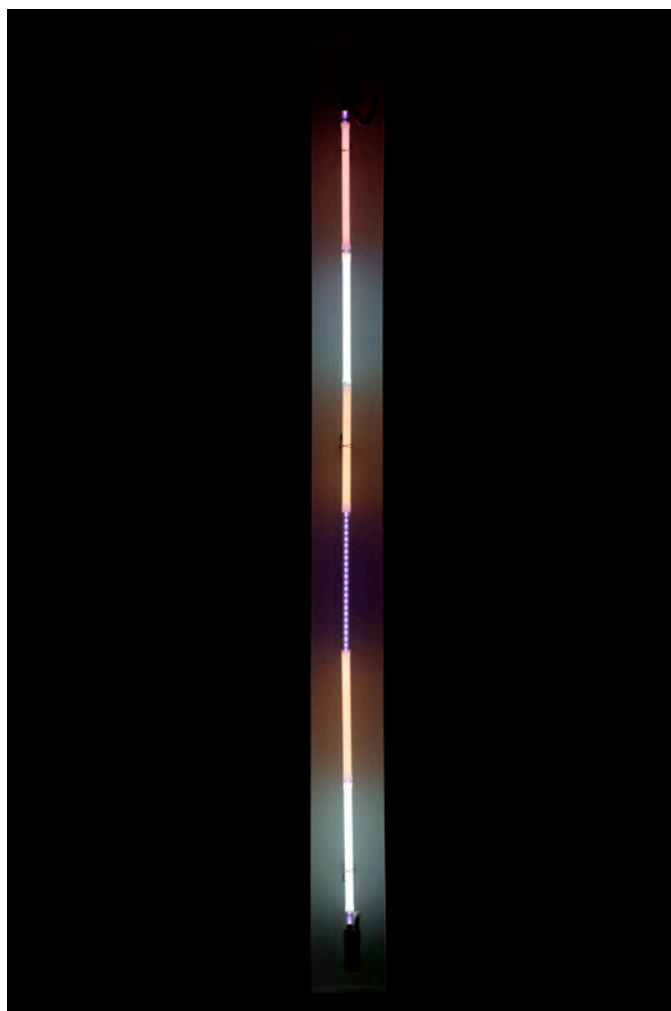
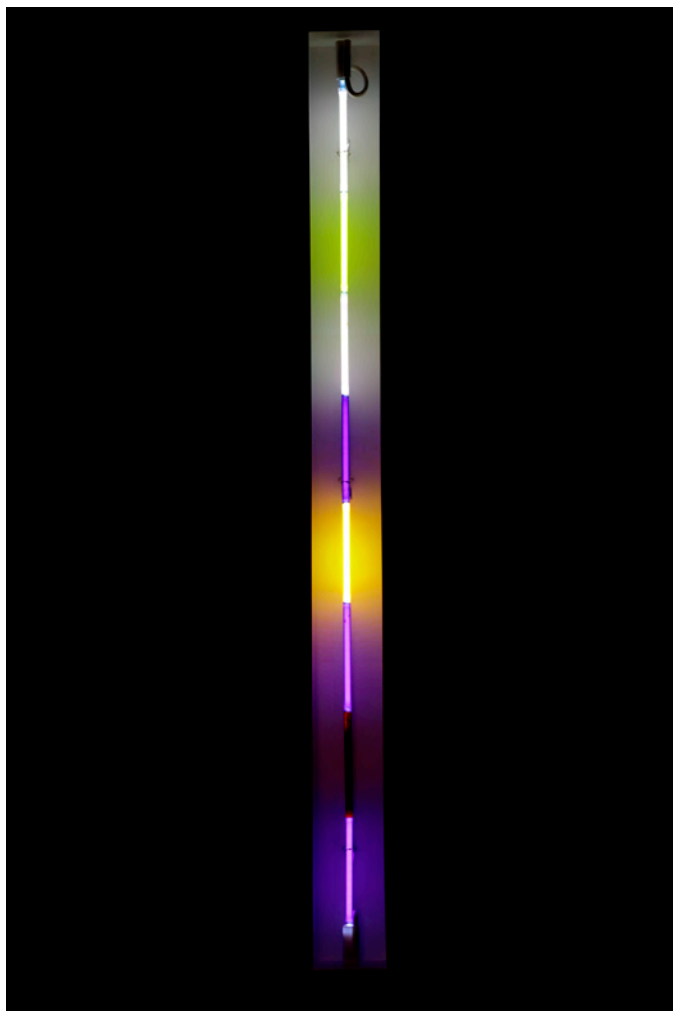
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50 + 50

A CREATIVE CENTURY FROM CHOUINARD TO CALARTS

CalArts, in partnership with publisher Lisa Ivorian-Jones, has commissioned limited editions and artwork series by a prominent group of 50 artist alumni as a part of *50+50: A Creative Century from Chouinard to CalArts*. *50+50* is an unprecedented artist-led scholarship endowment initiative in preparation for the upcoming 50th anniversary of California Institute of the Arts and the centennial of Chouinard Art Institute.

The *50+50* artist editions and series reflect the diversity of graduating artists from CalArts and Chouinard, which together have nurtured some of the world's most influential artistic talent for nearly 100 years, and set the leading edge of contemporary artistic practice in conceptualism, feminist art, design, and interdisciplinary performance.

Representing a broad range of art-making, the 2020 inaugural series of 10 artworks range in price from \$3,000 to upwards of \$100,000, and were generously created by artists John Baldessari (1931–2020; Chouinard 1959), Anne Collier (b.1970; CalArts 1993), Laddie John Dill (b.1943; Chouinard 1968), Joe Goode (b.1937; Chouinard 1961), Naotaka Hiro (b.1972; CalArts 2000), Tony Oursler (b.1957; CalArts 1979), Gala Porras-Kim (b.1984; CalArts 2009), Stephen Prina (b.1954; CalArts 1980), Barbara T. Smith (b.1931; Chouinard 1965), and Carrie Mae Weems (b.1953; CalArts 1981). A complete list of the 50 participating artists is provided below.

Sales of these artworks generate crucial funding for the School of Art Alumni Scholarship endowment, and provide essential financial support for students. Increased scholarship funding is necessary for CalArts to continue to recruit and retain the very best art students, regardless of their financial means.

The *50+50* project is just one example of the many ways that CalArts alumni play a vital role in directly supporting current and future students—the artists who will shape the future of culture.

Confirmed Artists

John Baldessari	Joe Goode	Rodney McMillian	Allen Ruppertsberg
Ericka Beckman	Lauren Halsey	Josephine Meckseper	David Salle
Larry Bell	Lyle Ashton Harris	Dave Muller	Pieter Schoolwerth
Nayland Blake	Richard Hawkins	Matthew Mullican	Jim Shaw
Ross Bleckner	Naotaka Hiro	Kelly Nipper	Gary Simmons
Barbara Bloom	Jason Kraus	Alexandra Olson	Barbara T. Smith
Andrea Bowers	Liz Larner	Catherine Opie	Henry Taylor
Anne Collier	Jonathan Lasker	Tony Oursler	Kaari Upson
Beatriz Cortez	Dashiell Manley	Laura Owens	Carrie Mae Weems
Laddie John Dill	Daniel Joseph	Lari Pittman	James Welling
Victoria Fu	Martinez	Gala Porras-Kim	Christopher Williams
Malik Gaines	Rita McBride	Stephen Prina	B. Wurtz
Liz Glynn	Adam McEwen	Andy Robert	

Leadership support for *50+50: A Creative Century from Chouinard to CalArts* is provided by CROZIER. Additional support is provided by Joshua White, fine art photographer, and by Collector Systems.

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