METRO PICTURES

"17 Emerging Artists to Watch in 2017," *Artsy.net* (December 13, 2016).

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Cui Jie, *House of Dove #3*, 2015.

Among the more important lessons learned by the art world in 2016: An emerging artist's career isn't cemented in one night, with one breakout show, or with one collector's token of approval. Artists who matter long-term have careers that build over time, show upon show, collection upon collection. In looking ahead to 2017, Artsy's editors consulted a number of data sources, including UBS's art news app Planet Art, as well as prominent artists, curators, writers, and collectors, to determine who among the many artists deserving of greater attention in the new year are particularly well positioned to rise to new heights. Here, in no specific order, are 17 to keep your eye on.

Cui Jie
B. 1983, Shanghai · Lives and works in Beijing

Cui has quickly asserted herself as one of the most exciting new voices of contemporary art in China thanks to her beautifully layered architectural paintings and sculptures. The works reflect her home country's rise and rapid urbanization and intertwine organic elements like birds and human forms into futuristic structures, prefacing a more conscientious trajectory of growth in years to come. In 2016, Hans Ulrich Obrist and Amira Gad tapped her as part of "Hack Space," an exhibition that traveled to the K11 Art Foundation's spaces in both Hong Kong and Shanghai; her first-ever large-scale sculpture featured in "A Beautiful Disorder" at the U.K.'s Cass Sculpture Foundation; she had a solo show at mother's tankstation in Dublin; and her paintings featured prominently in Shanghai gallery Leo Xu Projects's booths at both West Bund Art & Design and Art Basel in Miami Beach. 2017 proves to be a further defining year for the 33-year-old artist. Among other shows, she will feature in "The New Normal," a major survey of Chinese contemporary art at the Ullens Center of Contemporary Art this coming spring. Cui will also have solo show at Leo Xu Projects in winter 2017.