Exhibition
Slides &
Images
Larry Bell

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MIAMI
At ICA Miami, “Larry Bell: Time Machines” focuses attention on Bell’s innovative explorations of experiences generated by architectural space, as well as his little-known engagement with audiovisual media, including video and photography.

Addressing the relationship between the art object and its environment through the sculptural and reflective properties of the work.

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One of the most significant artists of his generation, Larry Bell (b. 1939, Chicago) is an important representative of a West Coast minimalism that married matter-of-fact materials and forms with intense sensorial experiences. Bell is most commonly known for his Minimalist sculptures—transparent cubes that thrive on the interplay of shape, light, and environment—that champion the ideas of the Light and Space Movement of the 1960s.

Although he had early success with Abstract Expressionist painting, a side job at a frame shop led him to experiment with excess scraps of glass, thus beginning his fascination with the material’s interaction with light. Bell’s first series of cubes combined three-dimensional glass forms with transmitted light, creating illusions of perspective through angles, ellipses, and mirrors. His later purchase of industrial plating equipment allowed him to create sculptures with metallic-coated glass and, eventually, drawings on Mylar-coated paper.
MINIMALISM

Is the abstract idea that art should have its own reality and not be an imitation of some other thing. With minimalism, no attempt is made to represent an outside reality, the artist wants the viewer to respond only to what is in front of them.

Minimalists wanted to break down traditional notions of painting and sculpture, taking away the classifications set by previous critics.

The Minimalists often stayed away from traditional art materials, and instead embraced the techniques of manufacturing, commercial materials, and industrial fabrication in order to eliminate the evidence of the artist’s hand normally found in, for example, brushstrokes.
COMPARING ROBERT MORRIS AND LARRY BELL

Untitled 1965, reconstructed 1971
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Bell is often associated with Light and Space, a group of mostly West Coast artists whose work is primarily concerned with perceptual experience stemming from the viewer's interaction with their work.

Bell was originally a painter but once working in a frame shop is where he found interest to work with glass.
Installation view: "Larry Bell: Time Machines" at Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami
Nov 1 2018-Mar 10 2019. Photo: Fredrik Nilsen Studio
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Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami

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