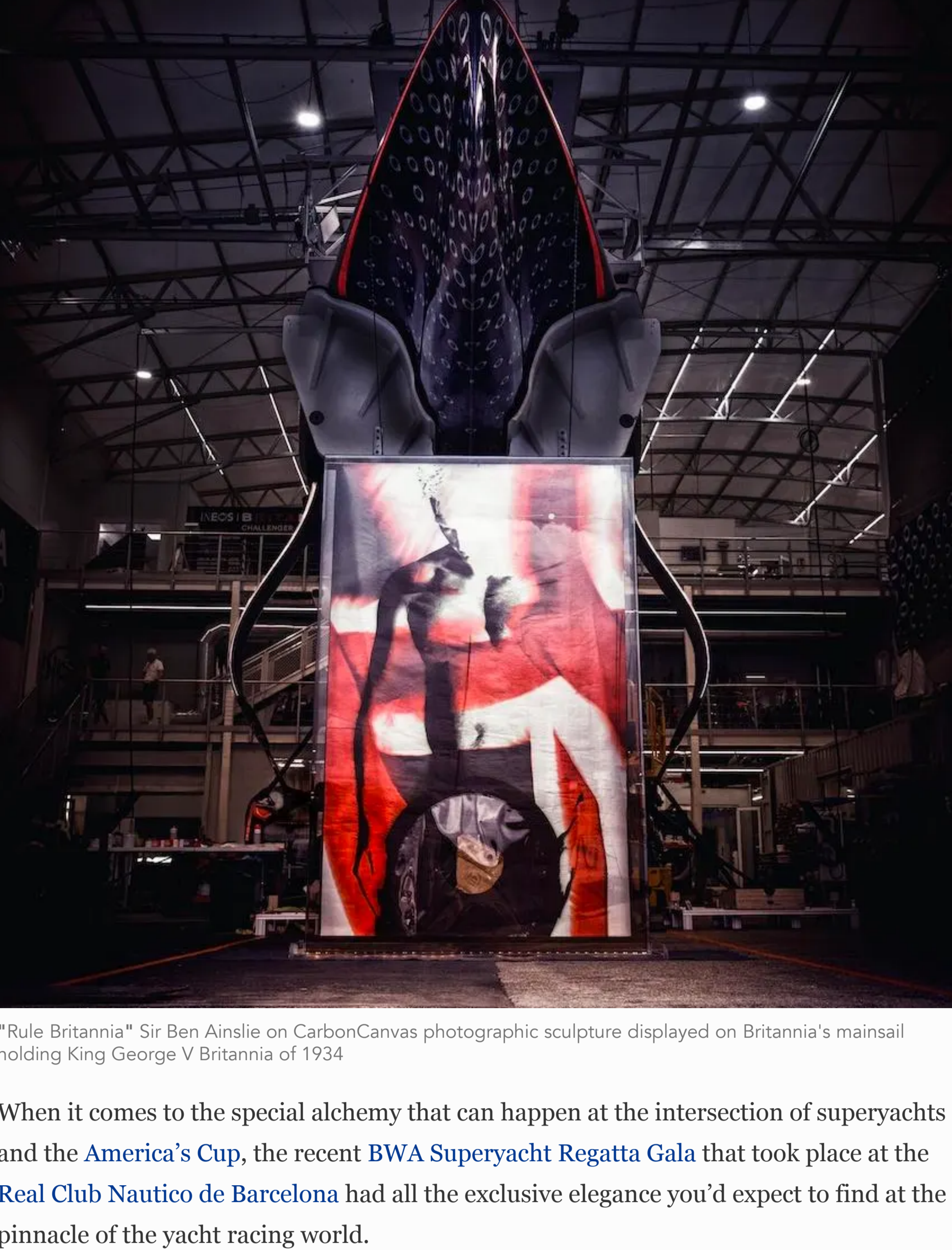


America's Cup Celebrated In Rare Modern Art Series

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By **Bill Springer**, Senior Contributor. *Forbes Magazine* Oct 27, 2024 at 03:21pm EDT



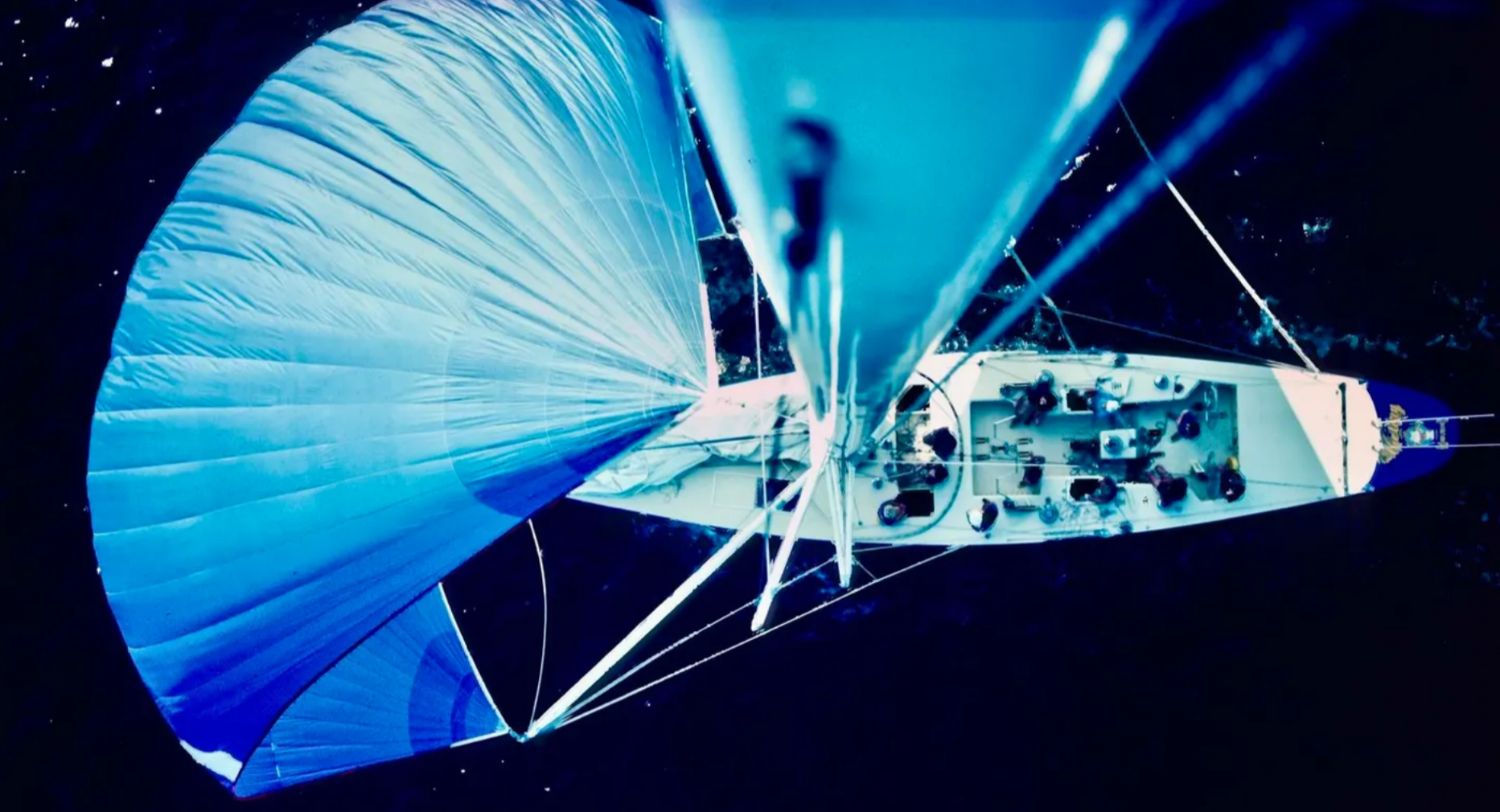
"Rule Britannia" Sir Ben Ainslie on CarbonCanvas photographic sculpture displayed on Britannia's mainsail holding King George V Britannia of 1934

When it comes to the special alchemy that can happen at the intersection of superyachts and the America's Cup, the recent **BWA Superyacht Regatta Gala** that took place at the **Real Club Nautico de Barcelona** had all the exclusive elegance you'd expect to find at the pinnacle of the yacht racing world.

But, I don't really want to talk about the party. In fact, I think the charity auction that took place during the gala, and featured the extraordinary modern art series that was created by the award-winning marine photographer who is "one name" famous—**KOS**—was the highlight of the night for several reasons.



First off, her talent as a marine photographer has been obvious since she first blasted on to the scene during the historic 1983 America's Cup. And as a **yachting journalist** who's always depended on talented photographers to help illustrate **my stories**, I can say with authority that KOS has always been one of the best in the world.



This is the image that KOS Evans shot when she climbed up the mast of the British America's Cup ... [+] KOS

Second, my admiration and respect for her has only grown since I've gotten to know her. In fact, I think she's one of those rare artists combines talent, fun, passion, hard work, creativity, and community mindedness in ways that can inform, inspire and delight.

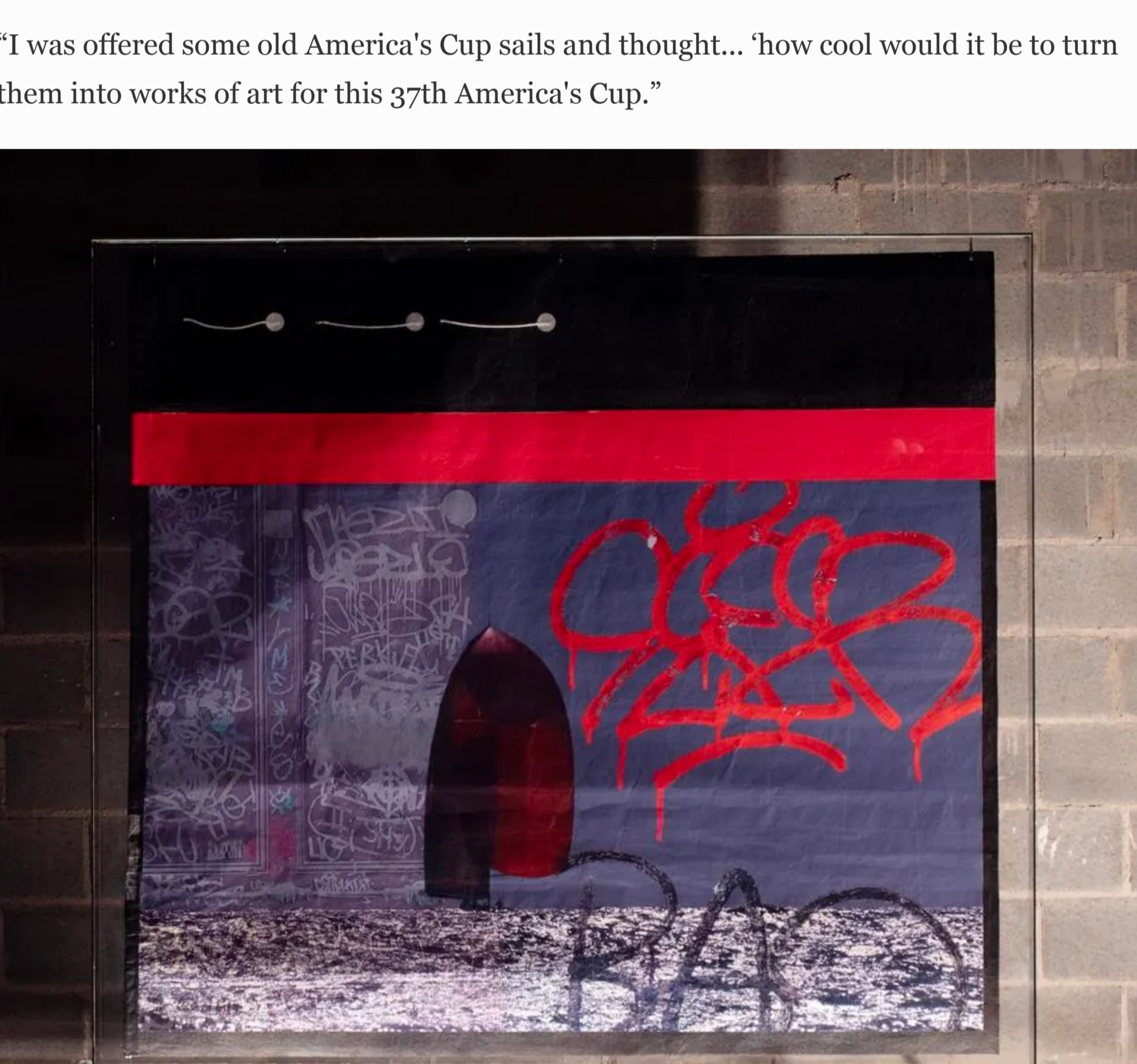


KOS Evans

And after learning about her motivation to use pieces of sail from some of the most famous and historic racing yachts in the world to create the **stunningly modern art** that was up for auction in Barcelona. I love her even more!

"This five year project came about when I woke up one morning thinking how could I preserve the history of my work," she says with a smile over coffee in Barcelona. "Since I started my career taking pictures from the 100-foot-tall masthead of the British challenger *Victory 83* in Newport, Rhode Island 1983, I decided historic sails could be the backdrop for this vision. By persevering my images in an art form on a historical sail I could also protect the history of the yacht, its journey's, and its stories too.

"I was offered some old America's Cup sails and thought... 'how cool would it be to turn them into works of art for this 37th America's Cup.'"



KOS turns historic America's Cup sails into modern art. Pictured CARBONCANVAS Graffiti - Team New Zealand

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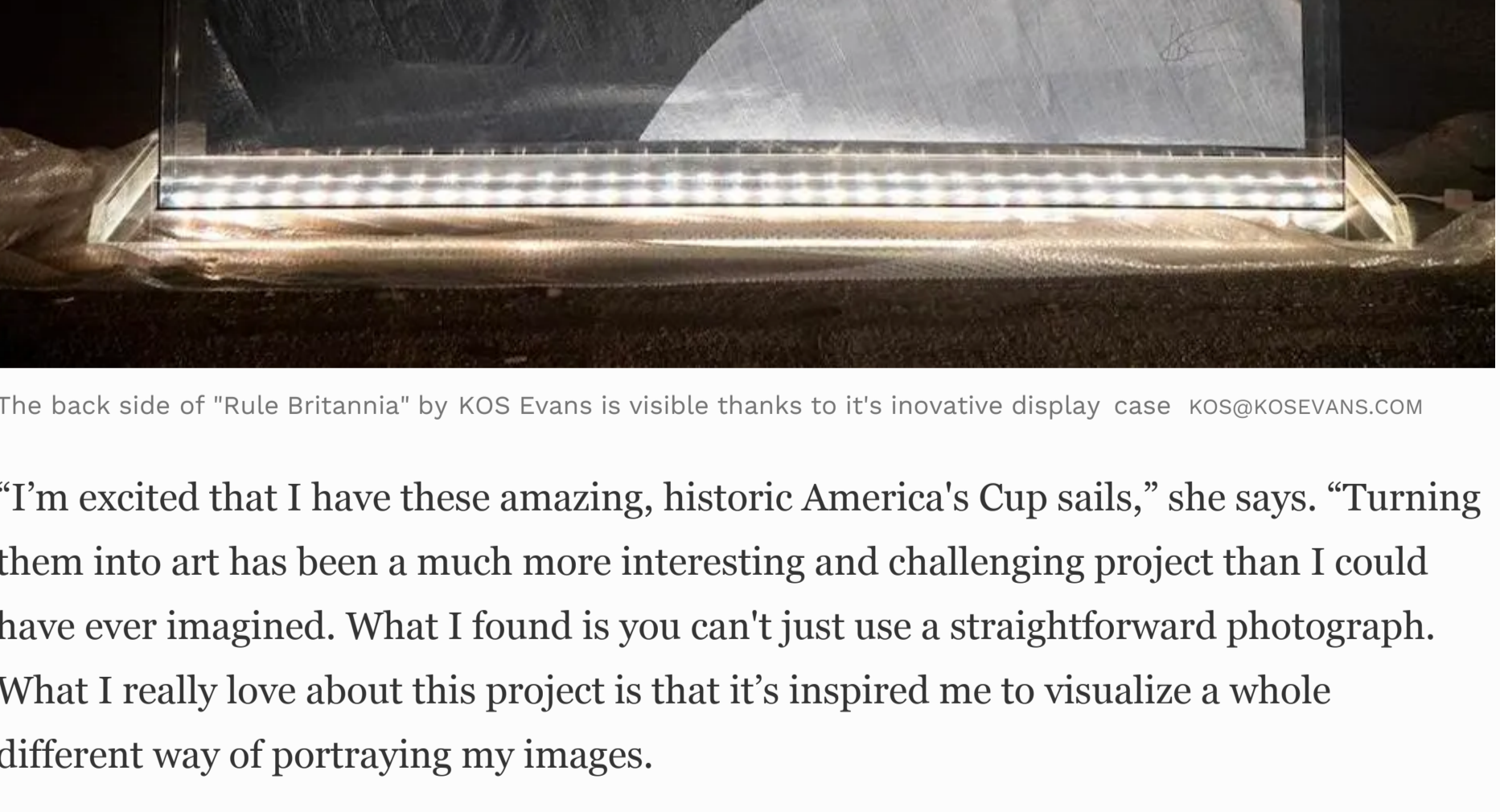
As you can see, the **CARBONCANVAS** photographic sculptures she specifically created to be auctioned off during the recent America's Cup are very, very cool. And she continues to have rare America's Cup sails from *Freedom* and *Intrepid*, J class era *Shamrock V*, *Velsheda*, *Endeavour* donated to the project. Of course, she has sails used in the most recent America's Cup. And she also has pieces from the record-breaking clipper ship *Cutty Sark*, King George V's yacht *Britannia* and others too. **Cadogan Tate** has even donated the museum-level shipping crates.



The back side of "Rule Britannia" by KOS Evans is visible thanks to it's inovative display case KOS@KOSEVANS.COM

"I'm excited that I have these amazing, historic America's Cup sails," she says. "Turning them into art has been a much more interesting and challenging project than I could have ever imagined. What I found is you can't just use a straightforward photograph. What I really love about this project is that it's inspired me to visualize a whole different way of portraying my images.

"For instance, I use some of the graffiti and street art from Barcelona in the Team New Zealand piece. It also has an image of their incredible red sail I shot in 1992 during their America's Cup campaign. For me, the image of the silver sea with a red sail, and the graffiti of Barcelona celebrates the Kiwi's successful defense of the Cup.



CARBONCANVAS Predator - Alinghi Red Bull Racing AC75 training sail by KOS Evans KOS@KOSEVANS.COM

"It's been a challenge to work out how to print on the material because these sails have literally been through the wars. And some are covered in salt. And some are delaminated. Some of them absorb water, some of them don't. But it's all been worth it."

And that's what makes this series so interesting to me. Each piece is a not only a one-of-a-kind piece of art. Each also contains a living breathing piece of yachting history that no one else has.

It doesn't get any more exclusive than that.

Except for KOS's next CARBONCANVAS sail sculpture project! She's calling it "Rock + Royals" because the rockstars and royalty she knows love yachts and the sea as much as she does.

Watch this space.