

WHITNEY

Whitney Museum
of American Art
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PRESS RELEASE



Ja'Tovia Gary (b. 1984-) still from *An Ecstatic Experience*, 2015. Video, color, sound, 6 min. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; purchase, with funds from Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz. 2017.196 © Ja'Tovia Gary

WHITNEY MUSEUM ANNOUNCES 417 RECENT ACQUISITIONS

NEW YORK, September 24, 2018 – Demonstrating the dynamic and constantly evolving nature of the Museum's collection, the Whitney Museum of American Art is pleased to announce that the Museum acquired 417 works over the course of the past year.

In that period, and as a result of these acquisitions, 62 new artists and collectives have entered the collection for the first time. They include Derrick Adams, Yuji Agematsu, Harold Ancart, Sam Contis, Sari Dienes, Mary Beth Edelson, Ja'Tovia Gary, Gran Fury, Marcia Hafif, Harmony Hammond, Sky Hopinka, Adelita Husni-Bey, Sanya Kantarovsky, Marlon Mullen, Juan Antonio Olivares, Walter Price, Marlon Riggs, Suellen Rocca, Bunny Rogers, Ming Smith, Sable Elyse Smith, Kyle Thurman, Mierle Laderman Ukeles, among others. Many were featured in recent exhibitions, including *An Incomplete History of Protest: Selections from the Whitney's Collection, 1940–2017*, *Bunny Rogers: Brig Und Ladder*, *Juan Antonio Olivares: Moléculas*, and the 2017 Whitney Biennial.

In addition, the Whitney deepened its commitment to artists already represented in depth by adding works by Diane Arbus, Paul Chan, Robert Gober, Gordon Matta-Clark, Julie Mehretu, Richard Pousette-Dart, and Kara Walker, among others.

“The Whitney’s recent acquisitions—especially by those artists new to the collection—will allow future curators to present our current moment in all of its complexity, subtlety, and frequent beauty. We thank all of the patrons who have helped make these acquisitions possible and the artists for entrusting us with the future lives of their work,” noted David Breslin, DeMartini Family Curator and Director of the Collection.

Nearly a dozen recent acquisitions will also be included in the forthcoming exhibition *Programmed: Rules, Codes, and Choreographies in Art, 1965–2018*, opening on September 28. *Programmed* establishes connections between works of art based on instructions, spanning over fifty years of conceptual, video, and computational art. The exhibition will include recently acquired works by Jim Campbell, Charles Csuri, Rafael Rozendaal, Joan Truckenbrod, and Siebren Versteeg. *Programmed* will also feature Lynn Hershman Leeson’s groundbreaking work *Lorna* (2004), also recently acquired by the Museum.

The Whitney’s collection includes nearly 25,000 works created by some 3,500 artists in the United States during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. This focus on the contemporary, along with a deep respect for artists’ creative process and vision, has guided the Museum’s collecting ever since its founding in 1930. The collection begins with Ashcan School painting and follows the major movements of the twentieth century in America, with strengths in Modernism and Social Realism, Precisionism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Minimalism, Postminimalism, art centered on identity and politics that came to the fore in the 1980s and 1990s, and contemporary work.

[View and download a PDF of recent acquisitions.](#)

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists at a time when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for more than eighty years. The core of the Whitney’s mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists themselves, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art

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Eckhaus Latta: Possessed	Until October 8, 2018
Pacha, Llaqta, Wasichay: Indigenous Space, Modern Architecture, New Art	Until September 30, 2018
David Wojnarowicz: History Keeps Me Awake at Night	Until September 30, 2018
Mary Corse: A Survey in Light	Until November 25, 2018
Programmed: Rules, Codes, and Choreographies in Art, 1965 – 2018	Until April 14, 2018
Andy Warhol – From A to B and Back Again	November 12, 2018 – March 31, 2019
Kevin Beasley	Opens December 15, 2018
Where We Are: Selections from the Whitney’s Collection 1900–1960	Ongoing
The Face in the Moon: Drawings and Prints by Louise Nevelson	Ongoing

The Whitney Museum of American Art is located at 99 Gansevoort Street between Washington and West Streets, New York City. Museum hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday from 10:30 am to 6 pm; Friday and Saturday from 10:30 am to 10 pm. Closed Tuesday except in July and August, and on select Tuesdays following the opening of Andy Warhol—From A to B and Back Again: November 13, November 20, November 27, and January 1. Adults: \$25. Full-time students, visitors 65 & over, and visitors with disabilities: \$18. Visitors 18 years & under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 7–10 pm. For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit whitney.org.

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