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718.501.6354 press@brooklynmuseum.org

The Brooklyn Museum Unveils New Brand Identity

The brand refresh honors the Museum's 200-year history while embracing its future with a bold new look.



Visual assets are available to download. All photos by Adrianna Glaviano.

The Brooklyn Museum is pleased to unveil a refreshed brand on the occasion of its 200th anniversary.

The new logo and visual identity reflect and celebrate the past while bringing us boldly into the future.

This rebrand marks an exciting new chapter, as the updated look is rolled out throughout the fall via new signage and collateral, a digital campaign, a new website, and a suite of exclusive merchandise.

"The ways that audiences are engaging with museums are expanding, and we needed a new brand that meets the demands of the day, honors our rich history, and brings a whole lot of energy. And there's no better time to launch it than our 200th anniversary!" says Anne Pasternak, Shelby White and Leon Levy Director of the Brooklyn Museum.



The new visual identity reflects these two centuries of history. In particular, the brand looks to the Museum's iconic building, considering its evolution from an original neoclassical design by McKim, Mead & White to its moves toward modernism in the 1930s, to recent projects that have created more open and welcoming spaces. The brand draws on these elements from our past and unites them with our identity today as a contemporary institution.

This is accomplished through an approachable, modern sans serif typeface and ligatures that express the Museum's multidimensionality—especially within the new logo. Two dots, inspired by those that frame the names of ancient philosophers, playwrights, and poets across the building's facade, now

bookend the logo and text throughout the Museum. This reference to writers and thinkers links to our beginnings as a library and to the intersectional nature of the arts.



In every application, the dots appear at least twice, an echo of the two *O's* in *Brooklyn*. They can be activated in motion graphics, used as bullets in text or as functional features in signs, and occasionally replaced with symbols or illustrations to add meaning or a sense of play. In addition, we now intertwine the double *O's* in *Brooklyn* and merge the *M's* and *U's* in *Museum*.

The new palette includes a range of grays, paying homage to our limestone building, as well as brighter, more saturated hues, lending a distinctly Brooklyn vibe. The two dots, overlapping letters, and kaleidoscopic colors all convey the Brooklyn Museum's identity as a place where a multiplicity of ideas, identities, and points of origin converge. These design elements nod to the encyclopedic collection as well as the interconnected roles the Museum plays for its multifaceted audiences: art museum, educational center, forum for ideas, weekend hotspot, and many more.

The visual identity was designed by Other Means, a Brooklyn-based graphic design studio, with the integral collaboration and support of in-house graphic designers. After more than a year of audience research and essential discussions with staff and key stakeholders, the new brand captures the diverse perspectives that make the Brooklyn Museum an icon.

ABOUT THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM

For 200 years, the Brooklyn Museum has been recognized as a trailblazer. Through a vast array of exhibitions, public programs, and community-centered initiatives, it continues to broaden the narratives of art, uplift a multitude of voices, and center creative expression within important dialogues of the day. Housed in a landmark building in the heart of Brooklyn, the Museum is home to an astounding encyclopedic collection. More than 140,000 objects represent cultures worldwide and over 5,500 years of history—from ancient Egyptian masterpieces to significant American works, to groundbreaking installations presented in the only feminist art center of its kind. One of the oldest and largest art museums in the country, the Brooklyn Museum remains committed to innovation, creating compelling experiences for its communities and celebrating the power of art to inspire awe, conversation, and joy.