

Brooklyn Museum

Press Release

September 2017

Brooklyn Museum Hosts Yes! Gala on October 19

Evening Includes a Conversation with
Judy Chicago and Presentation of the
2017 Sackler Center First Awards Honorees

VIP Guests include Gloria Steinem and
Amanda de Cadenet

Tickets on Sale Now for Special Awards Dinner
Celebrating Art and Feminism

Event Kicks Off *The Brooklyn Conference* at the Museum

The **Brooklyn Museum** today announced the honorees for its Yes! Gala, a special celebration of the past, present, and future of feminist art. Slated for Thursday, October 19, the Yes! Gala will commemorate the accomplishments of a group of pioneering women who have made an impact on arts, culture, and society—including the evening's special honoree, artist **Judy Chicago**. The event also kicks off *The Brooklyn Conference*, a special gathering that will bring together artists, leaders, and innovators for workshops, discussions, and art-making to explore the intersections of art and social justice.

The Yes! Gala begins with a preview of the exhibition *Roots of "The Dinner Party": History in the Making*, followed by a conversation between honoree artist **Judy Chicago** with #GirlGaze CEO **Amanda de Cadenet**. Journalist **Laura Flanders** will emcee the event, which will honor the 2017 Sackler Center First Awards recipients, including **Deborah Berke** (architect); **Jodi Archambault Gillette** (attorney and



activist); **Judith Jamison** (dancer and choreographer); **Carol Jenkins** (journalist and news anchor); **Roberta Kaplan** (litigator and attorney); **Kathy Kusner** (pioneer female jockey); **Rita Moreno** (award-winning performer and activist); **Ruth Simmons** (first African American Ivy League university president); **Edie Windsor** (gay marriage pioneer and activist); and the team behind feminist manifesto *Our Bodies, Ourselves*. A post-humous award will also be given to **Shirley Chisholm** (politician and educator). **Gloria Steinem** and **Elizabeth A. Sackler** will present the First Awards; many of the 2017 awardees will speak at *The Brooklyn Conference* the following day. Steering the festivities are the Yes! Benefit Committee—composed of **Jill and Jay Bernstein**, **Brooklyn Brewery**, **Jeanne Greenberg**

Rohatyn, Stephanie Ingrassia, Jennifer Morrison, Lisa Perry, and Ellen and Bill Taubman, and the 10th Anniversary Committee—made up of **Marjorie D. Eagan, Marjorie Martay, Leslie Puth, Elizabeth A. Sackler, Lauren J. Wachtler, and Lola C. West**. Chairs for the event are **Regina Aldisert, Sarah Arison, Amanda de Cadenet, Leslie Puth, Eric Wareheim, and Jessica Williams**, and **Elizabeth A. Sackler** is Honorary Chair.

“This year, the Brooklyn Museum is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art—the first of its kind in the world,” says Elizabeth A. Sackler, founder of the eponymous Center at the Brooklyn Museum. “At the Yes! Gala, we are honoring the 2017 Sackler Center First Awardees, all of whom were first in their fields. The Yes! Gala is a fabulous kick-off to the first-ever *Brooklyn Conference: Inspiring Social Change*, furthering our work toward equality, equity, and justice for women—and for all people.”

“Thanks to the vision and generosity of Elizabeth A. Sackler, ten years ago the Brooklyn Museum was the first, and is still the only, art museum to have a Feminist Center,” says Anne Pasternak, the Shelby White and Leon Levy Director of the Brooklyn Museum. “Now, with the culmination of our incredible *A Year of Yes*, the stage has been set for a more powerful future, one in which feminism’s work for a more equitable society permeates throughout the Museum and, hopefully, beyond.”

The 2017 recipients enter into the illustrious ranks of previous Sackler First Awards and Women in the Arts honorees including Marina Abramović, Sarah Arison, Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell, Angela Y. Davis, Ellen Gallagher, the Guerrilla Girls, Anita Hill, Miyoung Lee, Annie Leibovitz, Maya Lin, Janet Mock, Toni Morrison, Shirin Neshat, Linda Nochlin, Sandra Day O’Connor, Yoko Ono, Miss Piggy, Mera and Jennifer Rubell, Cindy Sherman, Laurie Simmons and Lena Dunham, Lowery Stokes Sims, Kiki Smith, and Kara Walker, among others.

Dinner and program tickets begin at \$1,500; tables begin at \$15,000. Tickets to the program and reception begin at \$150. Yes! Gala proceeds benefit the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art and the Brooklyn Museum. Purchase tickets online or by contacting special.events@brooklynmuseum.org.

About *The Brooklyn Conference*

The Brooklyn Conference: Inspiring Social Change, a major gathering of artists, leaders, and innovators, will convene October 19–21 at the Brooklyn Museum. The gathering will feature conversations, workshops, and keynotes from luminaries including Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, journalist Charles Blow, poet Claudia Rankine, artist Hank Willis Thomas, and many others, and will explore the intersections of art and social justice. For more information, visit www.brooklynmuseum.org.

About the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art

The Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art is a nexus for feminist art, theory, and activism. It is the permanent home of *The Dinner Party* by Judy Chicago, its Feminist Art and Herstory galleries display critically acclaimed exhibitions, and its Forum is a venue for lectures and a platform for advocacy for women’s issues.

About the Brooklyn Museum

The Brooklyn Museum presents important art in eye-opening ways, and has long been at the forefront of engagement with underserved and younger audiences, from its widely popular *Target First Saturdays* program and creative reinstallations of its permanent collection, to its pioneering online presence and inventive use of technology in reimagining the visitor experience. A driving force behind the massive growth and energy of the Borough of Brooklyn and of its diverse cultural community, the Brooklyn Museum annually welcomes more than half a million visitors who represent one of New York’s most diverse museum-going audiences.

With roots dating back to 1823, the Brooklyn Museum is one of the oldest and largest museums in the United States, with a collection representing nearly every culture, ranging from some of the most important ancient Egyptian works in the nation; to the arts of the Pacific Islands, Asia, Africa, and the Islamic world; to American and European art; to international contemporary works. The Brooklyn Museum is home to the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art, the only facility of its kind in the country.

Upcoming exhibitions include *Soulful Creatures: Animal Mummies in Ancient Egypt*; *Proof: Francisco Goya, Sergei Eisenstein, Robert Longo*; and *Roots of "The Dinner Party": History in the Making*. The Museum reaches audiences across the country and internationally with a robust schedule of traveling exhibitions, including current tours of *Georgia O'Keeffe: Living Modern*; *Who Shot Sports: A Photographic History, 1843 to the Present*; *Kehinde Wiley: A New Republic*; *Divine Felines*; and *Iggy Pop Life Class by Jeremy Deller*. For more information, visit www.brooklynmuseum.org.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission:

Contribution: \$16; students with valid I.D. and seniors \$10. Ages 19 and under FREE. Also FREE first Saturday of the month (except September), 5–11 pm. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling 718.501.6234.

Programs are subject to change without notice. For more information, visit www.brooklynmuseum.org.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/ Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B41, B69, B48. On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday and Friday, 11 am to 6 pm; Thursday, 11 am to 10 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 6 pm; first Saturday of each month (except September), 11 am to 11 pm. Closed Monday, Tuesday, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.