

MoMA PS1

FIRST COMPREHENSIVE U.S. RETROSPECTIVE FOCUSED ON PIONEERING ARTIST CAROLEE SCHNEEMANN

Carolee Schneemann: Kinetic Painting

October 22, 2017–March 11, 2018

1st and 2nd Floors, MoMA PS1

(Long Island City, NY – October 22, 2017) – MoMA PS1 presents the first comprehensive retrospective of the work of Carolee Schneemann (American, b. 1939) in the United States, bringing together over 300 works spanning her prolific six-decade career. As one of the most groundbreaking artists of the second half of the twentieth century, Schneemann’s pioneering investigations into the social construction of the female body and the sexual and cultural biases implicit in traditional art historical narratives have had an indelible impact on subsequent generations of artists. *Carolee Schneemann: Kinetic Painting* is on view through March 11, 2018.

Carolee Schneemann: Kinetic Painting begins with rarely seen examples of the artist’s early paintings from the 1950s, charting their evolution into assemblages made in the 1960s— which integrated found objects, mechanical elements, and painterly interventions. As a central protagonist of the New York downtown avant-garde community, she explored hybrid mediums culminating in what she termed “kinetic theater.” She was a co-founder of the innovative Judson Dance Theater and the first visual artist to choreograph for the ensemble.

During this period, Schneemann began to position her own body in her work with the intent of performing the roles of “both image-maker and image.” Responding to representations of sexuality made predominantly from the perspective of male artists, Schneemann’s provocative pieces foregrounded her body in ways that challenged prevailing attitudes about female sexuality. In parallel, Schneemann’s outrage over the atrocities of the Vietnam War are starkly reflected in several of her works from the mid-1960s.

The exhibition grounds Schneemann’s oeuvre within the context of her lifelong commitment to painting and action, tracing the early developments that would lead to her iconic performances and films from the 1960s and 1970s, through to her multimedia installations from the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s exploring feminist iconography, intimacy, and personal loss, as well as political disasters, captivity, and the destruction of war.

The exhibition features several works of key historical significance that were recently acquired by The Museum of Modern Art, including the pivotal painting-construction *Four Fur*

Press Release

22-25 Jackson Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101

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Cutting Boards (1963) and related photographic portfolio *Eye Body: 36 Transformative Actions* (1963), as well as the landmark installation *Up to and Including Her Limits* (1973-76).

Carolee Schneemann: Kinetic Painting is organized by the Museum der Moderne Salzburg. The exhibition is curated by Sabine Breitwieser, Director, Museum der Moderne Salzburg; and consulting curator Branden W. Joseph, Frank Gallipoli Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art, Columbia University, New York; and organized at MoMA PS1 by Erica Papernik-Shimizu, Associate Curator, Department of Media and Performance Art, The Museum of Modern Art; with Oliver Shultz, Curatorial Assistant, MoMA PS1.

Carolee Schneemann: Kinetic Painting originated at the Museum der Moderne Salzburg, Austria, from November 21, 2015 to February 28, 2016, and was on view at the Museum für Moderne Kunst Frankfurt am Main, Germany from May 31 to September 24, 2017.

The catalog *Carolee Schneemann: Kinetic Painting* was published in conjunction with the exhibition in German and English editions. This major publication, the first of its kind on Carolee Schneemann's work, is edited by Sabine Breitwieser for the Museum der Moderne Salzburg and features essays by Sabine Breitwieser, Branden W. Joseph, Mignon Nixon, Ara Osterweil, and Judith Rodenbeck, as well as selected writings by Carolee Schneemann. Separate German and English editions, hardcover, 280 x 240 mm, 320 pp., Munich: Prestel.

Carolee Schneemann is a multidisciplinary artist who has worked in painting, photography, performance, film, video, mixed media, and installation. MoMA PS1 has a history of exhibiting her work: Schneemann performed *Noise Bodies* (1965) in 1983 as part of the exhibition *PS1 Re-Opens the Sixties*, and *Four Fur Cutting Boards* (1963) was displayed at the Museum in 1984. Schneemann has been the subject of solo exhibitions at the Musée départemental d'art contemporain de Rochechouart, France (2013); the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, Spain (2014); Dia:Beacon, New York (2011); and the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (1997), and group exhibitions at Museum of Modern Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Haus der Kunst, Germany; and the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; among others. Schneemann's work is included in museum collections around the world, including the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Spain; Museum of Modern Art, New York; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California; Tate Modern, England; Centre Georges Pompidou, France; and Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C. Schneemann currently lives and works in upstate New York.

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For downloadable high-resolution images, register at MoMA.org/press.

Hours: MoMA PS1 is open from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday through Monday. It is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Artbook @ MoMA PS1 is open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.

Admission: \$10 suggested donation; \$5 for students and senior citizens; free for New York City residents*, MoMA members and MoMA admission ticket holders. The MoMA ticket must be presented at MoMA PS1 within thirty days of date on ticket and is not valid during Warm Up or other MoMA PS1 events or benefits.

**Free admission as a Gift to New Yorkers made possible by the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation.* Through October 15, 2018 all residents of New York's five boroughs receive free entrance to all exhibitions during regular museum hours; excluding concerts, fundraisers, and ticketed events. Upon arrival please present proof of New York City residency such as a driver's license, state-issued identification card or a New York City utility bill.

Directions: MoMA PS1 is located at 22-25 Jackson Avenue at 46th Ave in Long Island City, Queens, across the Queensboro Bridge from midtown Manhattan and is easily accessible by bus and subway. Traveling by subway, take either the E or M to Court Square-23 Street; the 7 to 45 Road-Courthouse Square; or the G to Court Sq or 21 St-Van Alst. By bus, take the Q67 to Jackson and 46th Ave or the B62 to 46th Ave.

MoMA PS1 Background: MoMA PS1 is devoted to today's most experimental, thought-provoking contemporary art. Founded in 1976 as the P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, it was the first nonprofit arts center in the United States devoted solely to contemporary art and is recognized as a defining force in the alternative space movement. In 2000 The Museum of Modern Art and P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center merged, creating the largest platform for contemporary art in the country and one of the largest in the world. Functioning as a living, active meeting place for the general public, MoMA PS1 is a catalyst for ideas, discourses, and new trends in contemporary art.