

MoMA PS1

MoMA PS1 PRESENTS THE LARGEST CATHY WILKES EXHIBITION TO DATE ORGANIZED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FIRST MARIA LASSNIG PRIZE

Cathy Wilkes

October 22, 2017–March 11, 2018

3rd Floor, MoMA PS1

(Long Island City, NY – October 22, 2017) – MoMA PS1 presents the first monographic exhibition of Cathy Wilkes (Irish, b. 1966) in New York. The largest exhibition of the artist's work to date, *Cathy Wilkes* features approximately 50 works from public and private collections throughout Europe and North America as well as new pieces created for the show, offering a broad view of Wilkes's work since 2004. On view through March 11, 2018, the exhibition is organized in conjunction with Wilkes's receipt of the first Maria Lassnig Prize, awarded by the Maria Lassnig Foundation in 2016.

Over more than two decades, Cathy Wilkes has created a body of work that engages with the rituals of life, combining paintings, drawings, sculptures, and objects both found and altered. Regularly employing quotidian products and residual materials drawn from her domestic life and environment in Glasgow, Wilkes's installations connect the banalities of daily existence to larger archetypes of birth, marriage, child rearing, and death. This combination of the personal and universal parallels a meditation at the heart of her work, exposing deeply felt subjective experiences while also insisting upon the fundamentally private nature of artmaking.

Wilkes's individual installations and larger exhibitions are marked by arrangements of objects that appear both precarious and precise, vulnerable and brutal. She often recomposes older pieces into new variations, and has more recently applied a similar approach to the design of her solo exhibitions. Repurposing select elements of extant works and combining them into new installations, Wilkes upends the "retrospective" structure of a mid-career exhibition, confounding experiences of past and present and challenging conventions of art history that would seek to interpret her work in a clear progression. Eschewing the framing or supports typical to exhibition display, Wilkes emphasizes a direct interaction with her work. Visitors are invited to carefully wander among installations whose boundaries are not always obvious, heightening attention to the shifting relationships between various elements in her works.

Cathy Wilkes is organized by Peter Eleey, Chief Curator, MoMA PS1; with Margaret Aldredge-Diamond, Curatorial and Exhibitions Associate, MoMA PS1.

About Cathy Wilkes

Cathy Wilkes was born in 1966 in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and lives and works in Glasgow, Scotland. She attended Glasgow School of Art from 1985 to 1988 and received her MFA from the University of Ulster in 1992. Wilkes represented Scotland at the La Biennale di Venezia in 2005 and participated in the International Exhibition of the Biennale in 2013. She was nominated for the Turner Prize in 2008. A survey exhibition presented at Tate Liverpool, UK,

in 2015, traveled to Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, Austria, and Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach, Germany (2015-2016). Solo exhibitions of her work have also been presented at The Renaissance Society, University of Chicago (2012); Gesellschaft für aktuelle Kunst, Bremen (2011); Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (2011); Kunstverein Munich (2011); Aspen Art Museum (2011); Milton Keynes Gallery, UK (2008); Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (2004); and Migros Museum, Zurich (2002).

About the Maria Lassnig Prize

The Maria Lassnig Prize was originally envisioned by pioneering Austrian artist Maria Lassnig (1919-2014) before her death at the age of 94, at height of her artistic powers. Having achieved recognition only later in life, she hoped to encourage the efforts of fellow career artists not yet familiar to the public. Each prize granted in her name carries an award of 50,000 euros and a solo exhibition organized by a designated institution that has collaborated with the Maria Lassnig Foundation and a selection committee to choose a winner. For 2017, that institutional partner is MoMA PS1, New York, where Chief Curator Peter Eleey presented Lassnig's first comprehensive American museum survey in 2014.

Launched in 2015, the Maria Lassnig Foundation is dedicated to advancing the legacy of one of the most original and important artists in modern times. The Foundation's central mission is to share the work and vision of Maria Lassnig with the broadest and most diverse audiences possible, and to increase international awareness of the artist's contributions by supporting exhibitions, publications, and original scholarly research. More information is available at <http://www.marialassnig.org/en>.

Cathy Wilkes is the first exhibition made possible by the Maria Lassnig Prize, a biennial award established by the Maria Lassnig Foundation to honor the achievements of mid-career artists.

The exhibition is generously supported by The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art.

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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.