

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART OPENS A SWEEPING INSTALLATION OF CONTEMPORARY ART FROM THE COLLECTION THAT REVEALS THE RANGE OF ARTISTIC APPROACHES TO POLITICAL, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL FORCES AFFECTING TODAY'S GLOBAL LANDSCAPE

Scenes for a New Heritage: Contemporary Art from the Collection Surveys Works Made in Last Three Decades Features More than 20 Bodies of Work on View for the First Time at MoMA

Scenes for a New Heritage: Contemporary Art from the Collection

March 8, 2015–April 10, 2016

Contemporary Galleries, second floor

Press Viewing: Thursday, March 5, 2015, 9:30–10:30 a.m.

NEW YORK, February 19, 2015—A sweeping reinstallation of The Museum of Modern Art's contemporary collection presents a wide range of artistic approaches to the political, social, and cultural flux that have shaped the current global landscape. ***Scenes for a New Heritage: Contemporary Art from the Collection***, on view from March 8, 2015, through April 10, 2016, features video, installation, sculpture, drawing, prints, and photography created in the past three decades by more than 30 international artists, with more than half of the works on view for the first time. *Scenes for a New Heritage* is organized by Quentin Bajac, the Joel and Anne Ehrenkrantz Chief Curator of Photography; Eva Respini, Curator, Department of Photography; Ana Janevski, Associate Curator, Department of Media and Performance Art; and Sarah Suzuki, Associate Curator, Department of Drawings and Prints; with Katerina Stathopoulou, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Photography.

The last 30 years have seen remarkable societal and cultural change, as major shifts in geopolitical dynamics destabilized the established world order, new economies emerged to challenge those long dominant, and the Internet radically altered the ways in which we access and generate information. New networks developed in response to this era of unprecedented global exchange, encompassing not only goods, knowledge, currency, and power, but also the creation, distribution, and reception of art. Made by artists working across mediums and under a diverse range of geographic, political, social, and aesthetic circumstances, the works in the exhibition are considered in dialogue, allowing us to reflect not only on their differences, but also to consider their shared concerns, offering a new perspective on the Museum's Collection.

A number of works will return to the galleries after extended absences; Cai Guo-Qiang's (Chinese, b. 1957) monumental *Borrowing Your Enemy's Arrows* (1998), a fishing boat pierced by thousands of arrows, will be displayed at the Museum for the first time in over a decade. Among the works that will be on view for the first time at MoMA are *Gamepieces* (2003/2009), a multimedia installation by Nalini Malani (Indian, b. 1946) that deftly blends mythology and history; Haegue Yang's (Korean, b. 1971) *Sallim* (2009), a sculptural reinterpretation of the

artist's Berlin kitchen; and Alfredo Jaar's (Chilean, b. 1956) landmark project *Lament of the Images* (2002).

Either by subverting traditional artistic forms or deliberately picking very contemporary ones, the artists in the exhibition's first section invent new narratives that challenge accepted versions of history in different ways. Their works reflect, directly or indirectly, upon the state of the world today, while echoing some of the political changes of the last 25 years. In David Maljković's (Croatian, b. 1973) *Scene for new heritage*, the project comprising both videos and drawings that lends the exhibition its title, the artist employs an abandoned Socialist monument to project an alternate future informed by events of the past.

Feng Mengbo (Chinese, b. 1966) examines the collapse and resilience of the communist system in his video game *Long March: Restart* (2008). The people who were "disappeared" in Colombia and Uruguay as a result of oppressive political regimes are recalled in the installation *Atrabiliarios* (1992–93), by Doris Salcedo (Columbia, b. 1958), and *Memorial* (2009), a portfolio of 195 digital prints by Luis Camnitzer (Uruguayan, b. 1937), respectively. The violence embedded in American history is central to Kara Walker's (American, b. 1969) *Gone: An Historical Romance of a Civil War as It Occurred b'tween the Dusky Thighs of One Young Negress and Her Heart* (1994) and Cady Noland's (American, b. 1956) *THE AMERICAN TRIP* (1988). Mladen Stilinović's (Croatian, b. 1945) *Exploitation of the Dead* (1984–90) refers to the exploitation of both dead poetics of avant-garde paintings and of dead signs that have changed their religious and ideological meanings in the course of time.

The exhibition's second section examines the myriad ways in which artists have addressed current conditions through the lens of cultural and aesthetic tradition, with an attendant reinvestigation of methods, materials, and motifs. Kerstin Brätsch (German, b. 1979) apprenticed with the master artisan Dirk Lange to learn paper marbling, a decorative technique popularized in 19th-century Europe, which she employed to make her massive work on paper, *Unstable Talismanic Rendering 27* (2014). Takashi Murakami (Japanese, b. 1962) references various Japanese aesthetic traditions in his painting *727* (1996), merging the echo of Katsushika Hokusai's 18th-century images of the Great Wave, Meiji-era *nihonga* (Japanese-style painting), and a 20th-century anime-inspired character to create a monumental image that relies equally on the past and the present.

The exhibition also explores patterns of migration and immigration and the impact of postcolonial and globalized economies on commodity production, urban life, and labor, as in Alan Sekula's (American, 1951–2013) photographic work *Fish Story* (1988–95), which documents the central role of the sea in the modern global economy. The works in this section investigate the conditions of new urban landscapes, including the effects of gentrification, renewal, and violence in the city. In his elegiac video *Broken Mirror* (1999), Chinese artist Song Dong (b. 1966) confronts China's struggle to maintain tradition in the face of fast-paced urbanization, while the 2011 video *Cantiere Barca*, by the Berlin-based architecture collective Raumlabor, explores possibilities for urban renewal with local resources. Everyday objects and situations inspire

artworks that link the private and public spheres, such as Haegue Yang's *Sallim*, which transplants the domestic space of the artist's kitchen into the Museum's galleries.

The final section of the exhibition examines the circulation and mutability of images and the ways they are produced, translated, and consumed in the global digital culture. The featured artists are aware of the increasingly complicated notion of the "documentary" in the digital age. The 2004 video essay *November*, by Hito Steyerl (German, b. 1966), delves into the role of images in revolution and their power to create new debates. The Lebanese artist Rabih Mroué (b. 1967) investigates the use of cellular phones in documenting the Syrian revolution with his 2012 *Blow Ups* inkjet prints, while in *Grosse Fatigue* (2013), the French artist Camille Henrot (b. 1978) attempts to tell the story of the universe's creation, appropriating shots from prestigious collections of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., together with found and recorded images.

SPONSORSHIP:

The exhibition is supported by the MoMA Annual Exhibition Fund.

EXHIBITION HASHTAG:

#MoMAContemporary

HEARING LOOPS:

In order to serve visitors with hearing loss, *Scenes for a New Heritage* includes induction hearing loops for sound amplification. Visitors to the installation can turn their hearing aid or cochlear implant to T-Coil mode to hear enhanced sound effortlessly.

MODERN MONDAYS:

An evening with David Maljković

Monday, May 18, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater (T2)

Admission to the Modern Mondays program is free for Museum ticket holders, but separate program tickets are required. A Modern Mondays admission ticket does not include admission to the Museum galleries. The price of a film admission ticket may be applied toward the price of a Museum admission ticket or MoMA membership within 30 days of purchase.

AUDIO TOUR:

The audio tour features commentaries by several artists, including Luis Camnitzer, Cai Guo-Qiang, Alfredo Jaar, Haegue Yang, Nalini Malani, Doris Salcedo, and Kara Walker.

MoMA Audio+ is available free of charge at the Museum and is also available for streaming and download on MoMA's free app on iTunes, MoMA.org/m, and MoMA.org. MoMA Audio+ is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

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

Public Information:

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019, (212) 708-9400, MoMA.org.

Hours: Saturday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$25 adults; \$18 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$14 full-time students with current I.D. Free, members and children 16 and under. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs). Free admission during Uniqlo Free Friday Nights: Fridays, 4:00–8:00 p.m.

MoMA.org: No service charge for tickets ordered on MoMA.org. Tickets purchased online may be printed out and presented at the Museum without waiting in line. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs).