

The Museum of Modern Art

MoMA ANNOUNCES A NEW EXHIBITION SERIES FOR 2023, DRAWN FROM ITS COLLECTION, TO OPEN ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Exhibitions Will Open on UNIQLO NYC Nights, When the Museum Is Open Late for All and Free to New Yorkers

NEW YORK, December 7, 2022—The Museum of Modern Art announced today a new exhibition series for 2023, focused on modern and contemporary art in all mediums, that can only be seen at MoMA. With a new gallery opening on the first Friday of every month—when the Museum stays open to all until 8:00 p.m. and offers free admission to New Yorkers for UNIQLO NYC Nights—these exhibitions will invite audiences to continue to explore MoMA’s dynamic collection and connect with art and ideas from more geographies and perspectives than ever before. Each of the 12 detailed below will open to the public on a first Friday; these will be joined by a monthly slate of additional new and unique exhibitions, also drawn from the collection, to complete the series. Visitors to MoMA, especially New Yorkers, will have more frequent and focused opportunities to discover new art and artists and can plan ahead to experience it first. More details on each month’s openings, including special related programs, will be announced next year.

Mark Rothko
Opening January 6
Gallery 403

MoMA’s collection of work by Mark Rothko, likely the strongest in the country, will be on view in depth for the first time in a decade. Focused on his extraordinary work from the 1950s, this show will illuminate Rothko’s move away from a Surrealist mode and toward his signature color-field paintings. *Mark Rothko* is organized by Cara Manes, Associate Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, with Danielle Johnson, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Drawings and Prints.

Calligraphic Abstraction
Opening February 3
Gallery 404

Featuring many rarely seen objects by artists from around the world, this exhibition will explore the expressive possibilities of calligraphy in abstract art. It will focus on the 1950s and 1960s, with artworks that exemplify different calligraphic modes and systems of writing in mid-century modernism—from graceful experiments with Arabic scripts, to decorative patterns formed by words, to abstract strokes and spontaneous movements. *Calligraphic Abstraction* is organized by Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi, The Steven and Lisa Tananbaum Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, with Danielle Johnson, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Drawings and Prints.

MoMA

11 West 53 Street
New York, NY 10019

Sandra Mujinga's Flo
Opening March 3
Gallery 213

Sandra Mujinga's larger-than-life hologram *Flo*—a new addition to MoMA's collection, on view in North America for the first time—makes a case for being hidden in plain sight in an era of endless digital footprints. Shimmering as it hovers in a darkened gallery, *Flo*'s exaggerated form slowly turns and sways to a spectral score of electronic sounds. Drawing influence from speculative fiction, post-humanist thinkers, and nightlife subcultures, *Flo* addresses the threat of bodily erasure and surveillance technologies by proposing invisibility as a strategy for survival. *Sandra Mujinga's Flo* is organized by Sophie Cavoulacos, Associate Curator, Department of Film, with Gee Wesley, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Media and Performance.

Jacob Lawrence and Elizabeth Catlett
Opening April 7
Gallery 520

Jacob Lawrence's landmark *Migration Series* will find new and compelling context installed in dialogue with Elizabeth Catlett's major *The Black Woman* series, an important 2021 acquisition that will be on view at MoMA for the first time. In these works, Catlett and Lawrence deploy similar formats—sequences of images with accompanying descriptive titles—to address history through the serial narrative form. *Jacob Lawrence and Elizabeth Catlett* is organized by Cara Manes, Associate Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, with Lydia Mullin, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Painting and Sculpture.

Ernest Cole's House of Bondage
Opening May 5
Gallery 409

First published in 1967, Ernest Cole's photobook *House of Bondage* exposed viewers around the world to the myriad forms of violence embedded in everyday life under South Africa's apartheid system. Cole traversed the country for seven years to make the book—furtively photographing its trains, mines, hospitals, and schools—in a methodical deconstruction of racialized life in South Africa. Featuring a recently acquired collection of Cole's prints, on view at MoMA for the first time, the exhibition will bring together photographs, books, and magazines presenting images from his landmark publication, as well as works by related photographers. *Ernest Cole's House of Bondage* is organized by Lucy Gallun, Associate Curator, and Oluremi C. Onabanjo, Associate Curator, Department of Photography, with Kaitlin Booher, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Photography.

Random-Access Memory
Opening June 2
Gallery 203

This exhibition will make visual the anxiety and optimism of the 1980s, as novel technologies collided with the shadow of history. Rarely seen artworks on view—including Sam Lucente's *Diagram of Dynamic Random-Access Memory Chip (DRAM)* (1984), Isa Genzken's *Rot-gelb-schwarzes Doppelellipsoid 'Zwilling'* (*Red-Yellow-Black Double Ellipsoid "Twinning"*) (1982), and Thomas Struth's gelatin silver prints of city streets—reflect on past and then-present historical moments, bringing into focus the unexpected confluence of the rise of digital computing, the persistent threat of nuclear war, and an unstable geopolitical order during the last decade of the Cold War. *Random-Access Memory* is organized by Paulina Pobocha, Associate Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, with Gee Wesley, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Media and Performance.

Designing the Machine Age

Opening July 7

Gallery 511

This exhibition will feature objects engineered for mass production, rarely shown photos of 20th-century American factories, and work by architects influenced by the factory buildings—making connections, never before explored at MoMA, that are critical to the story of the birth of modern architecture. Reflecting the industrial boom in the United States in the early 1900s—embodied most notably by Henry Ford’s development of the assembly line, and evidenced by the Midwest’s new and sprawling factory complexes—this exhibition will draw from the Museum’s expansive collection of the work of Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, and other major architects of the period. *Designing the Machine Age* is organized by Martino Stierli, The Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture and Design, with Mallory Cohen, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Architecture and Design.

Visual Vernaculars

Opening August 4

Gallery 521

The introduction of the Kodak camera in 1888 facilitated a radical flourishing of photographic production. United under the capacious term of “vernacular photography,” such pictures resist traditional forms of categorization, populating the intimate and public exchanges of everyday life. Drawing from MoMA’s expansive holdings of vernacular photography, *Visual Vernaculars* will explore the place of personal pictures in the construction of a self-image, demonstrating how visual forms can enunciate one’s social identities and relationships, environments and communities. *Visual Vernaculars* is organized by Oluremi C. Onabanjo, Associate Curator, Department of Photography, and Robin Coste Lewis, Ford Foundation Scholar in Residence, Department of Photography, with Antoinette Roberts, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Photography.

Ja’Tovia Gary’s THE GIVERNY SUITE

Opening September 1

Gallery 212

This exhibition will invite visitors to experience a multimedia work, newly acquired and on view for the first time, that uniquely cements a Black feminist perspective within the history of modern art and cinema. Including footage filmed on location in Harlem and in Claude Monet’s historic gardens at Giverny, *THE GIVERNY SUITE* (2019) is a cinematic poem that meditates on the safety and bodily autonomy of Black women. The three-channel, large-scale installation uses an arsenal of cinematic techniques—including direct animation, archival material and “woman-on-the-street interviews”—to explore sexuality, power, and the creativity of Black femme performance figures. *Ja’Tovia Gary’s THE GIVERNY SUITE* is organized by Gee Wesley and Lilia Taboada, Curatorial Assistants, Department of Media and Performance.

Plaster

Opening October 6

Gallery 516

Plaster, a hugely important material in the history of art, here becomes a lens through which to trace the unfolding of new sculptural forms across the first half of the 20th century. MoMA’s extensive collection of early modern sculpture will enable this exhibition, featuring many rarely seen works, to highlight plaster’s versatility, from an exploratory medium that allows for quick iteration to its potential for supple, gently undulating surfaces well suited to the biomorphic forms of the 1930s and beyond. *Plaster* is organized by Cara Manes, Associate Curator, with Lydia Mullin, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Painting and Sculpture.

Ken Jacobs's Orchard Street and Other Short Work

Opening November 3

Gallery 411

Over the past half-century, Ken Jacobs has reawakened the sense of awe and mystery that 19th-century audiences must have felt in confronting motion pictures for the first time. Essentially a self-taught filmmaker, the Brooklyn-born Jacobs studied painting before picking up a movie camera in the 1950s and '60s to make a series of films focusing on New York City street life, antic performances by Jack Smith and others, and the history of cinema. Jacobs's *Orchard Street* (1955) has been restored by MoMA and will be presented alongside more recent work to form a primer of his career. Experimenting in later short subjects with digital technologies of his own invention, Jacobs blurs the worlds of 2D and 3D space, and in doing so creates his own brand of cinematic Abstract Expressionism. *Ken Jacobs's Orchard Street and Other Short Work* is organized by Josh Siegel, Curator, Department of Film, with Danielle Johnson, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Drawings and Prints.

Mike Kelley's Deodorized Central Mass with Satellites

Opening December 1

Gallery 207

On view at MoMA for the first time, Mike Kelley's immersive installation is comprised of hanging spheres made of stuffed animals surrounded by abstract sculptures that periodically release pine-scented mist into the air. *Deodorized Central Mass with Satellites*, the artist's most ambitious sculpture, is the culmination of a years-long investigation into the empathic relationships we form with inanimate objects. Using plush toys as the material for sculpture, Kelley transforms what was once endearing into something repellent, an effect exaggerated by the ambient smell of cleaning products in the air. *Mike Kelley's Deodorized Central Mass with Satellites* is organized by Paulina Pobochoa, Associate Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, with Gee Wesley, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Media and Performance.

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