

The Museum of Modern Art

MoMA PRESENTS AN EXHIBITION THAT EXPLORES THE INTERSECTIONS BETWEEN TEXTILES AND ABSTRACT ART OVER THE PAST HUNDRED YEARS

Woven Histories: Textiles and Modern Abstraction

April 20 – September 13, 2025

Floor 3, 3 East

NEW YORK, August 26, 2024—The Museum of Modern Art presents ***Woven Histories: Textiles and Modern Abstraction***, an in-depth exhibition that delves into the dynamic intersections between weaving and abstraction. On view April 20 through September 13, 2025, the exhibition includes approximately 150 works in a range of mediums—from textiles and basketry to painting, drawing, sculpture, and media works—exploring the overlap between abstract art, weaving, craft, and fashion. *Woven Histories* challenges long-held notions of the weave as a function of textile alone, exploring the many forms both warp and weft have taken when explored by abstract artists over the past 100 years. Previously on view at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, and the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, the exhibition's final presentation at MoMA, includes numerous works not seen at earlier venues.

Woven Histories: Textiles and Modern Abstraction is organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, in collaboration with The Museum of Modern Art, New York, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa. The exhibition is curated by Lynne Cooke, Senior Curator in the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art, National Gallery of Art. The Museum of Modern Art presentation is organized by Esther Adler, Curator, with Emily Olek, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Drawing and Prints, and Paul Galloway, Collection Specialist, Department of Architecture and Design.

Unfolding chronologically, *Woven Histories* begins with works by pioneering artists of the early 20th century whose explorations in textile transformed the scope of modern art. Highlighting MoMA's substantial holdings from the period, the show's final iteration exclusively features Gunta Stolz's *Wall Hanging* (1924), and an expanded selection of work by Anni Albers, including her historic *Free-Hanging Room Dividers* (c. 1940). More recent works by such artists as Igshaan Adams, Rosemarie Trockel, and Andrea Zittel reveal common threads between this expanded history of abstract art and contemporary practice. Highlighting issues of labor and identity that are intertwined with modern textile production, *Woven Histories* posits weaving and textiles as the quintessential link between lived experience and art, as explored in works by Diedrick Brackens, Liz Collins, Jeffrey Gibson, and Laura Huertas Millán.

Inspired by contemporary artists' interest in, and engagement with, both traditional and avant-garde weaving practices, *Woven Histories* hinges on key historical moments during which these intersections are clearest, from the early 20th century, through the postwar moment, and continuing today. Many of the included artists will have work on view at MoMA for the first time, including Shan Goshorn, Yvonne Koolmatrie, Ellen Lesperance, Carole Frances Lung, and Marilou Schultz. *Woven Histories* expands the notion of the development of abstraction from its earliest days, challenging its status as a solely conceptual and formalist framework by suggesting that its materiality—found in woven, knotted, and braided fabric—is equally critical to its understanding and success.

MoMA

11 West 53 Street
New York, NY 10019

PUBLIC PROGRAMS:

Creativity Lab: Weaving Together

Apr 16–Sep 28, 2025

The Paula and James Crown Creativity Lab

Creativity Lab: Weaving Together invites you to explore how the art of weaving links generations, traditions, and materials across time through hands-on activities, a resource library, archival materials, and public programs. *Weaving Together* is a collaboration between creative studio Weaving Hand, artist Cynthia Alberto, and arts incubator Relative Arts. It was developed in conjunction with the exhibition *Woven Histories: Textiles and Modern Abstraction*.

For more information, visit <https://www.moma.org/calendar/exhibitions/5814>

Family Art Workshop: Weaving Wonders

Apr 26, 27, May 3, 10, and 11, 2025

Education Center, Floor 1

Explore the many forms weaving can take, from baskets to textiles to clothes, in the exhibition *Woven Histories: Textiles and Modern Abstraction*, then make your own loom and try weaving with paper, yarn, and recycled plastic. Kids and adults participate. Only kids ages five to seven will be permitted to attend. Online registration is required.

For more information, visit <https://www.moma.org/calendar/events/10486>

Interpreting MoMA: *Woven Histories*

Thu, May 15, 5:00 p.m.

Education Center, Mezzanine

Please join us for MoMA's bimonthly program welcoming individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing to participate in an ASL–interpreted private gallery talk focusing on one of MoMA's exhibitions, along with a wine and snack reception.

In May we will explore the exhibition *Woven Histories: Textiles and Modern Abstraction* with members of the curatorial team. Textiles touch every aspect of our lives and connect us to history. This exhibition brings together more than 150 diverse, interdisciplinary objects. Highlighting issues of labor and identity that are intertwined with modern textile production, *Woven Histories* argues that weaving and textiles are the quintessential link between lived experience and art.

For more information, visit <https://www.moma.org/calendar/events/10376>

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