

The Museum of Modern Art

ANN TEMKIN TO STEP DOWN IN JANUARY 2027 AS MARIE-JOSÉE AND HENRY KRAVIS CHIEF CURATOR OF PAINTING AND SCULPTURE

Will Assume New Role as Strategic Advisor to the Director, Centennial Initiatives

NEW YORK, September 28, 2026—Christophe Cherix, the David Rockefeller Director of The Museum of Modern Art, announced today that Ann Temkin will step down in January 2027 as the Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis Chief Curator of Painting and Sculpture, after serving in the position for 18 years, and will assume a new role as Strategic Advisor to the Director in relation to the planning of MoMA's 2029 centennial initiatives.

Cherix announced that MoMA will immediately begin an executive search for a successor to Temkin as Chief Curator and, once the search has concluded, she will begin serving as a Strategic Advisor to the Director, working closely with him and colleagues in all departments of the Museum.

Temkin joined MoMA in 2003, serving as the Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller Curator of Painting and Sculpture, and became the Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis Chief Curator of Painting and Sculpture in 2008. A hallmark of her tenure has been her leadership in collaborating with fellow curators to reimagine the Museum's collection galleries, transforming them from siloed, single-medium narratives into dynamic, multidisciplinary displays offering multiple perspectives. During her tenure, the Department of Painting and Sculpture's acquisitions program dramatically widened its breadth with works by historical artists new to its collection, especially women, artists of African descent, and artists working outside of Europe and North America, while strengthening the holdings of works by landmark modern artists and collecting actively from the new generation of artists working today.

"All of us at MoMA are extremely grateful to Ann Temkin for her remarkable achievements as Chief Curator of Painting and Sculpture and for the work she will do with us in the coming years," said Cherix. "With the centennial on the horizon comes an exciting challenge: how to continually evolve alongside art, artists, and the world around us while offering our audiences the depth of expertise of a major institution. Ann has brilliantly addressed that very question throughout her tenure, and we welcome her continued contributions to a museum she knows so well."

"Having been honored to serve as MoMA's Chief Curator of Painting and Sculpture for 18 years, it will be a great delight to take on this exciting new role," Temkin said. "MoMA's centennial will naturally be a moment for recollection, but above all it will be an opportunity to look ahead and open our imaginations to the future, as we embrace the next phase of the Museum's continual transformation."

At MoMA, Temkin has curated or co-curated the exhibitions *Marcel Duchamp* (2026), *Lillie P. Bliss and the Birth of the Modern* (2024), *Projects: Marlon Mullen* (2024), *Matisse: The Red Studio* (2022), *Judd* (2020), *Studio Visit: Selected Gifts from Agnes Gund* (2018), *Picasso Sculpture* (2015), *Robert Gober: The Heart Is Not a Metaphor* (2014), *Jasper Johns: Regrets* (2014), *Ileana Sonnabend: Ambassador for the New* (2013), *Ellsworth Kelly: Chatham Series* (2013), *Claes Oldenburg: The Street and The Store and Mouse Museum/Ray Gun Wing* (2013), *Abstract Expressionist New York* (2010), *Gabriel Orozco* (2009), and *Color Chart: Reinventing Color, 1950 to Today* (2008). She is a co-editor of *Inventing the Modern: Untold Stories of the Women Who Shaped The Museum of Modern Art* (2024), a revelatory account of 14 women who had a decisive impact on the institution.

From 1990 to 2003, Temkin was the Muriel and Philip Berman Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

PRESS CONTACT:

MoMA Press Office, pressoffice@moma.org

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