



REMEMBER TO REACT: 60 YEARS OF COLLECTING AT NSU ART MUSEUM FORT LAUDERDALE

First Comprehensive Installation of Museum's Collection



Jenny Holzer, *The Survival Series: Remember to react*, 1984, Cast aluminum, ed. 8/10; NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale; purchased with funds provided by Michael and Diane Bienes by exchange, 2018.5 © 2018 Jenny Holzer / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

Remember to React: 60 Years of Collecting is the first comprehensive installation of NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale's collection. Presented on the occasion of the institution's 60th anniversary, this exhibition will occupy the Museum's more than 28,000 square-feet of galleries and will open to the public in two phases on **September 9, 2018** and **November 18, 2018**. The exhibition will be on view through June 30, 2019.

Representing various periods and developments in the history of art, *Remember to React* also traces the collection's growth from its origins to today. The exhibition is curated by NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale's Director and Chief Curator Bonnie Clearwater and its Sunny Kaufman Senior Curator Barbara Buhler Lynes, Ph.D, with consulting curators.

The exhibition takes its title from a recent acquisition to the collection of conceptual artist Jenny Holzer's 1984 *Survival Series*, a simple plaque embossed with the text "Remember to React." Both a commentary on contemporary life and call for participation, Holzer uses the word "react" to prompt viewers into action. The exhibition similarly asks viewers to respond actively to the works on view as well as to the world around them.

Following the Museum's establishment in 1958, its founders launched the institution's collection with African, Native American and Oceanic traditional art as its core. Today, in addition to these areas, NSU Art Museum holds the largest U.S. collection of the post-World War II experimental Cobra group, an extensive collection of Latin American and Cuban art, and a concentration of modern and contemporary art that focuses on work by women and multi-cultural artists. Additionally, it houses the largest collection of works by the early American modernist William J. Glackens, a leader of the progressive Ashcan School, whose work will be presented, along with that of Pierre-Auguste Renoir in a concurrent exhibition *William Glackens and Pierre-Auguste Renoir: Affinities and Distinctions* (October 21, 2018 – May 19, 2019).

The Museum's collection will be installed as its founders envisioned, as an interlocking narrative. It will include an extensive installation of the Museum's traditional African art, and will begin with a gallery devoted to the works by artists of the Mexican Revolution – including Frida Kahlo, Jose Clemente Orozco, Diego Rivera, David Alfaro Siqueiros and others – and a gallery focused on artists such as Asger Jorn and Henry Heerup who resisted the German military occupation of Denmark (1943 to 1945) and later formed the Cobra group with Karel Appel, Constant, and others as a reaction to the political and social world order that emerged after World War II. Also on view is a comprehensive installation of American and European geometric abstract artists (Charles Biederman, Anthony Hill, Louise Nevelson) and works by post-World War II Italian abstract artists

(Agostino Bonalumi, Lucio Fontana, Mimmo Rotella) that are important links between abstract expressionism and minimalism and the revival of figurative art in the 1970s.

The exhibition will present abstract and Pop Art with works by William Copley, Elaine de Kooning, Sam Gilliam, Philip Guston, Robert Morris, Robert Rauschenberg, Julian Schnabel, Frank Stella, Andy Warhol, and Tom Wesselman, as well as works representative of the current global art world inclusive of a variety of traditions by José Bedia, Anne Chu, Tracey Emin, Teresita Fernández, Theaster Gates, Barbara Kruger, Mona Hatoum, Samson Kambalu, Glenn Ligon, Jonathan Meese, Ana Mendieta, Zanele Muholi, Catherine Opie, Cindy Sherman, Lorna Simpson and Purvis Young, among others.

A new major installation by Johannesburg-based artist Serge Alain Nitegeka will be unveiled during the exhibition where it will join other site-specific installations that the Museum previously commissioned for the collection by Edouard Duval-Carrié, Arturo Herrera, Rosario Marquardt & Roberto Behar, and Jen Stark.

Sections of the exhibition will change over the course of the year with installations of other core holdings, to reveal the nuances of the interrelated and reactive narratives among the works in the Museum's unique collection.

***Remember to React: 60 Years of Collecting* is sponsored by the David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation and Funding Arts Broward.**

NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is located at One East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL. For additional information, please visit nsuartmuseum.org or call 954-525-5500. Follow the Museum on social media @nsuartmuseum

About NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale: Celebrating 60 Years

Celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2018, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale provides exceptional learning and inspirational opportunities through access to works of the highest level of artistic expression. The Museum is housed in an 83,000-square foot modernist building designed by Edward Larrabee Barnes, and is located in the heart of the city's downtown riverfront. Under the helm of Director and Chief Curator Bonnie Clearwater, the Museum is a leader in the visual arts and a vibrant cultural resource serving South Florida and national and international audiences. In 2008, the Art Museum became part of Nova Southeastern University, one of the largest private research universities in the United States. AutoNation, the country's largest automotive retailer, presents a year of 60th anniversary programming.

A collecting institution since 1959, NSU Art Museum's permanent collection was established with acquisitions of 19th and 20th Century American and European paintings and sculpture, Oceanic, African, Pre-Columbian and Native American art. Today, among its most notable holdings is the largest collection of Cobra art by the avant-garde post-World War II artists of Copenhagen, Brussels and Amsterdam in the U.S.; the world's largest collection of works by American painter and Ashcan School founder William Glackens (1870-1938); strong collections of works by Latin American and Cuban artists of the 20th century; and contemporary paintings, sculpture, video, installations, and drawings with an emphasis on women and multicultural artists. Two scholarly research centers complement the collections: The Dr. Stanley and Pearl Goodman Latin American Art Study Center and the William J. Glackens Study Center.

Exhibitions and programs at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale are made possible in part by a challenge grant from the David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation. Funding is also provided by Wege Foundation, Nova Southeastern University, Hudson Family Foundation, Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. NSU Art Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

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