

Her Crowd: New Art by Women from Our Neighbors' Private Collections

On view **September 24, 2016 – January 2, 2017**

Bruce Museum, Greenwich, CT



Jenny Saville
The Mothers, 2011
Oil and charcoal on canvas, 106 5/16 x 86 5/8 in.
Collection of Lisa and Steven Tananbaum
© Jenny Saville.
Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery

GREENWICH, CT. August 26, 2016 – Only yesterday, it seems, one was hard-pressed to name more than a handful of successful women artists; now the list would be extensive, and the choices rich and varied. Although numerous recent exhibitions have featured women's art, the collecting of art created by women has received scant attention. In fact, private collections are in the process of being dramatically transformed, shifting to focus on contemporary artists, women in particular.

On September 24, 2016, the Bruce Museum will open ***Her Crowd: New Art by Women from Our Neighbors' Private Collections***. Greenwich and the nearby communities in Fairfield and Westchester counties are home to a number of the finest contemporary

collections, and thus to some of the most exciting art by women being made today. ***Her Crowd*** will offer the rare opportunity to see what some of America's most influential collectors of contemporary art consider beautiful, important, and compelling. Themes specific to women continue to be of significance: motherhood, food, sexuality; beauty and its discontents; stereotypes of femininity and their undoing; intersections of gender and race. Equally important for ***Her Crowd*** is the current powerful resurgence of abstraction in its myriad forms: minimalist patterning, expressive mark-making, and painterly exuberance. Many artists represented in the show traffic in unexpected collisions: of the second and third dimension, of the carefully crafted and the found object, of the concrete and the immaterial. Running the gamut from established figures to brilliant newcomers, the exhibition includes remarkable work by Yayoi Kusama, Kiki Smith, Betye Saar, Annie Lapin, Margaret Lee, Carol Bove, Dana Schutz, Jessica Stockholder, Jenny Saville, and Tara Donovan, among others. ***Her Crowd: New Art by Women from Our Neighbors' Private Collections*** will offer a glimpse into the exciting interchange between contemporary artists and their passionate collectors.

The exhibition is co-curated by Kenneth E. Silver, New York University Professor of Modern Art and Bruce Museum Adjunct Curator of Art, and Mia Laufer, PhD candidate (Washington University in Saint Louis) and Zvi Grunberg Resident Fellow.

Exhibition Catalog

A scholarly exhibition catalogue, featuring a foreword by Peter C. Sutton, The Susan E. Lynch Executive Director of the Bruce Museum, and essays by the curators, also includes catalogue entries and color illustrations of the works in the show.

Exhibition programming

“Bruce Goes Contemporary” Young Professionals Happy Hour and Movie

September 30, 2016, 5:30 – 8:00 pm

From 5:30-6:30 pm, the museum's galleries will be open late and museum staff will be on hand to give informal tours of the exhibitions on view including *Her Crowd*, *Science in Motion*, *Electricity*, and *Flora and Fauna Drawings*. Light refreshments and Two Roads beer will be

served. This will be followed by a screening of *Women, Art, Revolution!* a film about the Feminist art movement of the 1970s and '80s. The event is free and open to the general public, ages 21 - 45.

Monday Morning Lecture Series: Feminism and Art

In this lecture series, arts professionals will speak about the intersections between art and feminism, providing visitors with a broader understanding of the history and current state of women in the art world. This series is free and open to the public. No advanced registration is required.

- **October 17, 10:00 - 11:00 am.** “Consuming Passions: Some Women Art Collectors in Post WWII America” Dr. Ferris Olin (Director of the Rutgers Institute for Women and Art and Rutgers professor since 1976) will speak about female art collectors in the late 20th century and how this practice overlapped with the Feminist and Civil Rights movements.
- **October 24, 10:00 - 11:00 am.** “Sex Talk” Dr. Siona Wilson (Professor at CUNY, College of Staten Island) will give a survey lecture on the Feminist Art movement of the 1970s and '80s.
- **October 31, 10:00 - 11:00 am.** “Death Be Not Drab” Alessandra Expósito (artist in the show), will speak about her work.
- **November 7, 10:00 - 11:00 am.** “Wangechi Mutu: History, Alchemy and Afro-Feminist Futurism” Saisha Grayson (PhD Candidate at CUNY) will speak about Wangechi Mutu (artist in the show) and on an exhibition she curated in 2013 at the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art in the Brooklyn called *Wangechi Mutu: A Fantastic Journey*.

Film Series: Contemporary Art

This film series explores contemporary art from the newest season (8) of the PBS series *Art21*. Each film explores contemporary art in a different city. Films are on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am. Each film is 50 minutes long, and followed by 15 minutes of Q&A with a Bruce Museum staff member. Free with Museum admission. No advance registration required.



BRUCE MUSEUM
One Museum Drive • Greenwich, CT 06830-7100
203.869.0376 • www.brucemuseum.org

Press Release

- **November 2, 10:30 - 11:45 am.** Chicago
- **November 9, 10:30 - 11:45 am.** New Mexico
- **November 16, 10:30 - 11:45 am.** Los Angeles
- **November 23, 10:30 - 11:45 am.** Vancouver

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Note to editor:

For more information or images, please contact Sandra van Boetzelaer, Director of Marketing and Communications at 203-413-6735 or email Pressoffice@brucemuseum.org.