



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, October 1, 2015

**THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES (MOCA) HONORS MOCA TRUSTEE
SUSAN GERSH AND ARTIST MARILYN MINTER**

9th MOCA DISTINGUISHED WOMEN IN THE ARTS LUNCHEON

**THE AWARD LUNCHEON BENEFITS ALL MOCA EFFORTS,
INCLUDING EDUCATION AND EXHIBITION PROGRAMS**

PRESENTATION BY PAUL SCHIMMEL AND PHILIPPE VERGNE

LOS ANGELES—The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles is pleased to announce that MOCA Trustee Susan Gersh and artist Marilyn Minter are the honorees of the 9th MOCA Distinguished Women in the Arts Luncheon. They will be honored for their extraordinary talents and contributions to the arts during the exclusive and highly anticipated luncheon on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills. Hosted by the MOCA Projects Council, one of the museum's major support organizations, the event will benefit all of MOCA's efforts, including educational and exhibition programs presented by the museum each year. The awards will be presented by Paul Schimmel and Philippe Vergne, and the luncheon will feature a special presentation of the Fall 2015 Michael Kors Collection.

The MOCA Distinguished Women in the Arts Luncheon was established in 1994 by the MOCA Projects Council to recognize the many gifted women providing leadership and innovation in the visual arts, dance, music, and literature. Past honorees include noted collector and patron Beatrice Gersh (1994), editor Tina Brown (1997), choreographer Twyla Tharp (1999), actress and director Anjelica Huston (2001), and artists Barbara Kruger (2001), Yoko Ono (2003), Jenny Holzer (2010), and Annie Leibovitz (2012). In 2013, four artists—Lita Albuquerque, Helen Pashgian, Nancy Rubins and Betye Saar—were recognized.

This year's event is led by Event Chairs Marla Diamond and Pam Smith, alongside MOCA Projects Council Co-Presidents Nancy Koven and Stephanie Vahn, and MOCA Projects Council Co-Chair Marilyn Resnick. Proceeds from the MOCA Distinguished Women in the Arts Luncheon support all of MOCA's efforts, including educational and exhibition programs presented by the museum each year.

Ticket prices range from \$350 to \$1,000 and tables for 10 start at \$5,000. To reserve a table or tickets, please contact 213/633-5318 or events@moca.org.

ABOUT THE HONOREES

Susan Gersh has been involved in the Los Angeles art scene for many years. As a young woman, she was the director at the Ruth S. Schaffner Gallery in Los Angeles and later opened Susan Gersh Gallery, Los Angeles. Susan became involved with The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles in 1981 as a charter founder, later joining the MOCA Projects Council in 1987, and was elected to the Board of Trustees in 2006. She is currently Chair of the Education Committee and serves on the Development Committee, Ethics Committee, Finance and Investment Committee, and Executive Board. In addition, she was selected by the Beverly Hills City Council to serve on the city's Fine Art Commission from 2002 to 2008. In 2010, Susan was selected by the Beverly Hills City Council to serve on the city's Recreation and Parks Commission and is still currently serving as a Commissioner. Additionally, Susan is the Chair of the Dream Fund for Young Scholars Committee.

Marilyn Minter (b. 1948, USA) lives and works in New York. She has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions at venues including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in 2005; the Center for Contemporary Art, Cincinnati, OH, in 2009; La Conservera, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Ceutí/Murcia, Spain in 2009; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH, in 2010; and the Deichtorhallen in Hamburg, Germany in 2011. Her video *Green Pink Caviar* was exhibited in the lobby of The Museum of Modern Art, New York in 2010 for over a year, and was also shown on digital billboards on Sunset Boulevard in L.A. and on the Creative Time MTV billboard in Times Square, New York. In 2015, Minter's retrospective *Pretty/Dirty* opened at the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX. *Pretty/Dirty* will continue to travel to Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver, the Orange Country Museum of Art, and the Brooklyn Museum in the fall of 2016. Minter is represented by Salon 94, New York and Regen Projects, Los Angeles.

THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES (MOCA)

About MOCA: Founded in 1979, MOCA's vision is to be the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short period of time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth with three Los Angeles locations of architectural renown; a world-class permanent collection of more than 6,800 objects, international in scope and among the finest in the world; hallmark education programs that are widely emulated; award-winning publications that present original scholarship; groundbreaking monographic, touring, and thematic exhibitions of international repute that survey the art of our time; and cutting-edge engagement with modes of new media production. MOCA is a not-for-profit institution that relies on a variety of funding sources for its activities.

Hours: MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles) is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11am to 6pm; Thursday from 11am to 8pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm; and closed on Tuesday. The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA (located at 152 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012) has the same hours as MOCA Grand Avenue during exhibitions. Please call ahead or go to moca.org for the exhibition schedule for The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA. MOCA Pacific Design Center (located at 8687 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood, CA 90069) is open Tuesday through Friday from 11am to 5pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 6pm; and closed on Monday. The MOCA Store at MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue) is open Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 10:30am to 5:30pm; Thursday from 10:30am to 8:30pm; and Saturday and Sunday from 10:30am to 6:30pm.

Museum Admission: General admission is free for all MOCA members. General admission is also free for everyone at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm, courtesy of Wells Fargo. General admission is always free at MOCA Pacific Design Center. General admission at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is \$12 for adults; \$7 for students with I.D. and seniors (65+); and free for children under 12.

More Information: For 24-hour information on current exhibitions, education programs, and special events, call 213/626-6222 or access MOCA online at moca.org.

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