



THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MOCA RECEIVES FOUNDING GIFT FROM TRUSTEE WONMI KWON TO LAUNCH WONMI'S WAREHOUSE PROGRAMS

WONMI'S WAREHOUSE PROGRAMS

LOS ANGELES—The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) is extremely pleased to announce a founding gift for Wonmi's WAREHOUSE Programs. This generous and transformative gift comes from longtime MOCA Trustee Wonmi Kwon, her husband Kihong Kwon and family. Located in MOCA's Little Tokyo space, Wonmi's WAREHOUSE Programs will include curated programs that highlight performance and performing arts, artistic experimentation, experiential installations, a wide range of contemporary and social practices, and festival-like open events such as conventions, summits, readings, idea fairs, concerts, screenings, dance, as well as group, family, and community-oriented activities that encourage diverse, intergenerational experiences for new and established audiences. This gift will make possible a significant increase in programming and the infrastructure needed to support the space and its activities for years to come.

"It's a bit over a year that Wonmi and I started talking about the cutting edge of contemporary art, the artist's studio, performing arts, and performance art and the artistic spirit of the Temporary Contemporary," explains MOCA Director Klaus Biesenbach. "We began exploring the idea of Wonmi's WAREHOUSE Programs immediately when we met, and now she and her family are founding Wonmi's WAREHOUSE Programs! What an incredible gift for the community of Los Angeles and beyond! I cannot thank her enough and am very honored and grateful for this transformative gift!"

This support will enable The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA in Little Tokyo to be open and available year-round and allows the warehouse location to be re-conceptualized as a convening space to engage and activate the community. In addition, this foundational contribution makes possible the creation of an artist bar and restaurant connecting *The Aileen Getty Plaza* with Wonmi's WAREHOUSE Programs. This gift will be launched with a seminal mural facing Alameda Street by artist Barbara Kruger which bookends an earlier gift, also made by Wonmi Kwon and her family, of the Barbara Kruger mural, *Untitled (Questions)* (1990/2018), installed at MOCA Geffen one year ago. Work has already begun on evaluating infrastructure needs to realize Wonmi's WAREHOUSE Programs and the new offerings will begin to roll out in 2020.

"I have been part of the MOCA family for many decades and it is with renewed confidence and excitement about the museum that we make this gift," says Kwon. "The space in Little Tokyo has always resonated with me for its physical and metaphorical proximity to the artist's studio. It is a space of innovation, freedom, and experimentation. Knowing it will now be activated and opened up to the community in a robust and exciting way brings me and my family great joy."

“Wonmi has been an inspiration to me and the entire board since she first became involved with the museum nearly 30 years ago,” remarks MOCA Board Chair Maria Seferian. “Wonmi and Kihong's gift will make it possible for MOCA to return to its roots, at its first location originally named ‘The Temporary Contemporary’ and launch a program that showcases our museum's commitment to the community, to living artists, and to new art practices. We're so honored and thrilled by this gift!”

Wonmi's WAREHOUSE Programs further the museum's mission by creating a space that allows for exchange within our communities, welcoming a broad range of voices, and drawing on the intersection of contemporary art with local and global topics such as environment and social justice.

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About MOCA: Founded in 1979, MOCA is the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short period of time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth; a world-class permanent collection of more than 7,000 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. 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 all people on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm. General admission at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is \$15 for adults; \$8 for students with I.D.; \$10 for seniors (65+); and free for children under 12 and jurors with I.D.

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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