New Museum Honors Day With(out) Art on December 1, 2007

With the public opening of the New Museum on December 1, 2007, the Museum celebrates its 30th anniversary and proudly participates in Day With(out) Art with selections from our permanent collection that engage with and mark the AIDS crisis including the historic neon work “Silence=Death” by the activist art collective Gran Fury from 1988. Day With(out) Art/World AIDS Day continues to be an urgent day of remembrance and action in all communities, and with the opening celebration of Museum’s new building, we look to acknowledge and communicate the New Museum’s past, current, and future engagement with community action towards ending the AIDS pandemic.

Day Without Art began on December 1, 1989 as a national day of action and mourning in response to the AIDS crisis highlighting the profound impact this disease has had on the arts community. Arts groups, museums, and commercial galleries honored Day Without Art by closing for the day, sending respective staff members to volunteer at AIDS service organizations, and covering works of art normally on view to the public. In 1997, the annual event evolved into Day With(out) Art which encourages arts organizations to recognize and increase programming of cultural events that call attention to the continuing pandemic.

Prior to the organized efforts of Day Without Art, the New Museum addressed the devastating crisis by commissioning a project, Let the Record Show… by the publicity committee of ACT-UP for its window gallery on 583 Broadway. The installation included a neon version of the already iconic logo, Silence=Death, which is now part of the New Museum’s permanent collection. In the accompanying brochure, the late New Museum curator William Olander writes, “Let the record show that there are many in the community of art and artists who chose not to be silent in the 1980s.” The New Museum continued to uphold this ideal with exhibitions such as Until that Last Breath: Women with AIDS (1989), initiated by founding director Marcia Tucker, by participating in Day Without Art since 1989, for several years wrapping the entryway of the Museum in black fabric on December 1 to honor the day. Today, as activist and arts organization mark Day With(out) Art around the globe, let the record show that many in the arts community still choose not to be silent. For the opening of the new building at 235 Bowery, the New Museum pairs the old with the new, presenting significant works in the collection that address the AIDS pandemic such as Act Up’s Silence = Death and Gran Fury’s Wipe Out (New York City Subway Project).

ABOUT THE NEW MUSEUM
Founded in 1977, the New Museum is the first and only contemporary art museum in New York City and among the most respected internationally, with a curatorial program unrivaled in the United States in its global scope and adventurousness. With the inauguration of our new, state-of-the-art building on the Bowery, the New Museum will be the destination for new art and new ideas.
LOCATION, HOURS, AND ADMISSION
The New Museum is located at 235 Bowery (at Prince Street between Stanton and Rivington Streets, one and a half blocks south of Houston)

The Museum will be open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. with extended evening hours on Thursday and Friday from 6-10 p.m. CIT is the lead sponsor of CIT Free Thursday Evenings (from 7-10 p.m). The Museum is closed to the public on Monday and Tuesday, except for prescheduled group tours on Tuesday.

General Admission: $12
Seniors: $8
Students: $6
18 and under: free

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