

# *The Decade Show*

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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George Calderaro, The Studio Museum  
Sara Palmer, The New Museum  
Nilda Peraza, MoCHA

## THREE NY MUSEUMS COLLABORATE FOR GROUND-BREAKING EXHIBITION ON THE 1980s

The Decade Show: Frameworks of Identity in the 1980s, an unprecedented collaborative exhibition on the art and issues of the 1980s, will be presented from May through August 1990 at the Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art, The New Museum of Contemporary Art, and The Studio Museum in Harlem. More than 200 works by 94 American artists of Asian, Hispanic, African, European, and Native American heritage will be featured in this ground-breaking exhibition. In addition, the project will include a performance series, three panel discussions, a public forum, and a major catalogue.

The collaboration for The Decade Show was initiated two years ago by the directors of the three museums: Nilda Peraza of MOCHA, Marcia Tucker of The New Museum, and Kinshasha Holman Conwill of The Studio Museum. The exhibition is issue-oriented, focusing on the major concerns of the 1980s as they relate to the idea of identity. Rather than a stylistic overview, The Decade Show explores a multiplicity of approaches to the theme expressed in a variety of cultural practices, from the visual to the performing arts. Emerging as a hybrid and fluid notion, identity will be seen as it relates to larger questions of sexuality, the environment, race, religion, history, myth, and politics. The Decade Show will be fully multicultural with works loosely grouped by theme at each museum. The artwork—ranging from sculpture, painting, and photography to installations, videos, and collaborative, interdisciplinary, and public art projects—questions and criticizes how dominant culture determines identity. Some of the artists featured will be Ida Applebroog, Luis Cruz Azaceta, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Albert Chong, Robert Colescott, Edgar Heap-of-Birds, Group Material, Alfredo Jaar, Ana Mendieta, David Hammons, Barbara Kruger, Adrian Piper, Richard Prince, Martin Puryear, Andres Serrano, Liliana Porter, and Krzysztof Wodiczko. [NOTE: Complete list of artists is attached.] The artists have been jointly selected by Julia Herzberg, Associate Curator, MOCHA; Laura Trippi and Gary Sangster, Curators, The New Museum; and Dr. Sharon Patton, Chief Curator, The Studio Museum.

In recognition of the multiplicity of performance genres that emerged and developed during the 1980s, a major element of The Decade Show will be a six-evening performance series held at

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## COLLABORATIVE EXHIBITION ON THE '80s AT THREE NY MUSEUMS/2/2/2

Dance Theatre Workshop, and The Studio Museum during June. Featured performers will include Kathy Acker, DanceNoise, Jimmie Durham, Ethyl Eichelberger, Guillermo Gomez-Pena, John Kelly, Robbie McCauley with Jeannie Hutchins, Alva Rogers and Lisa Jones, Merien Soto and Pepon Osorio, and Carmelita Tropicana.

Another major component of The Decade Show will be a three-part series of panel discussions—followed by an open forum—aimed at stimulating discussion among critics, historians, artists, scholars, and the general public on major concerns of the 1980s. Topics include "The Canon: Issues of Inclusion, Exclusion and Dissolution;" "High Art/Street Culture: Cultural Practices in the 1980s;" and "Perspectives on Multiculturalism." The panel discussions and open forum will take place every Tuesday evening in June. [NOTE: Complete schedule and list of participants are attached.]

A comprehensive, 400-page, fully-illustrated catalogue, with an introduction by the directors of the three museums, will accompany The Decade Show. Thematic essays addressing all aspects of the project will be contributed by a range of authorities: the curators of the exhibition; feminist art historian Eunice Lipton; Village Voice critic C. Carr; art historian Judith Wilson; Lowery Sims, Curator, Metropolitan Museum of Art; Margo Machida, recent recipient of a Rockefeller Foundation grant to document Asian American artists; Latin American scholar Susana Torruella Leval; performance artist and writer Guillermo Gomez-Pena; art critic David Deitcher; artist Jimmie Durham, former Ambassador to the United Nations for the American Indian Nation; and Micki McGee, video curator at Artists Space. The catalogue will also include a chronology of events of the 1980s, a photo essay, and a bibliography.

The Decade Show has been generously funded by grants from The Henry Luce Foundation, Inc. and the Rockefeller Foundation. Additional funding was provided by the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, AT&T, and the New York Council for the Humanities.

The Decade Show will be open to the public at The New Museum of Contemporary Art (583 Broadway) from May 12 through August 19; at the Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art (584 Broadway) from May 16 through August 18; and at The Studio Museum in Harlem (144 West 125th Street) from May 18 through August 19. A free shuttle bus will run between Soho and Harlem every Saturday from May 19 to August 18.

## The Decade Show: Frameworks of Identity in the 1980s

### VISUAL ARTISTS

Max Aguilera-Hellweg  
John Ahearn  
Carlos Alfonso  
Emma Amos  
Ida Applebroog  
Tomie Arai  
Luis Cruz Azaceta  
Jean-Michel Basquiat  
Miriam Beerman  
Louis Bernal  
Dara Birnbaum  
Maria Brito-Avellana  
Fred Brown  
Beverly Buchanan  
Josely Carvalho  
Albert Chong  
Ken Chu  
David Chung  
Robert Colescott  
Houston Conwill  
John Coplans  
Emilio Cruz  
Judite dos Santos  
Mel Edwards  
Epoxy Art Group  
Eric Fischl  
Ismael Frigerio  
Leon Golub  
Gran Fury  
Group Material  
Guerrilla Girls  
Hans Haacke  
David Hammons  
Maren Hassinger  
Edgar Heap-of-Birds  
Jenny Holzer  
Alfredo Jaar  
Martha Jackson-Jarvis  
G. Peter Jemison  
Luis Jimenez  
Leandro Katz  
Mary Kelly  
Komar & Melamid  
Barbara Kruger  
Pok-Chi Lau  
Louise Lawler  
Joseph Lewis III

George Longfish  
Yolanda Lopez  
James Luna  
Margo Machida  
Ana Mendieta  
Amalia Mesa-Bains  
Nestor Millan  
Yong Soon Min  
Tyrone Mitchell  
Tom Nakashima  
Bruce Nauman  
Catalina Parra  
Cesar Paternosto  
Howardena Pindell  
Adrian Piper  
Liliana Porter  
Richard Prince  
Martin Puryear  
Nick Quijano  
Faith Ringgold  
Arnaldo Roche  
Tim Rollins & K.O.S.  
Martha Rosler  
Alison Saar  
Betye Saar  
Ben Sakoguchi  
Juan Sanchez  
Raymond Saunders  
Andres Serrano  
Cindy Sherman  
Laurie Simmons  
Coreen Simpson  
Lorna Simpson  
Jaune Quick-To-See Smith  
Nancy Spero  
Haim Steinbach  
Kaylynn Sullivan Two Trees  
Jorge Tacla  
Rigoberto Torres  
Cecilia Vicuna  
Christian Walker  
Kay Walkingstick  
Richard Ray Whitman  
Pat Ward Williams  
Krzysztof Wodiczko  
David Wojnarowicz  
Martin Wong  
Victor Zamudio-Taylor

### VIDEO ARTISTS

Joan Braderman  
Shu Lea Cheang  
Jaime Davidovich  
Sachiko Hamada and Scott Sinkler  
Vanalyne Green  
John Greyson  
Reginald Hudlin  
Philip Mallory Jones  
Yolanda Lopez  
Chip Lord  
Branda Miller  
Sherrie Milner  
Howardena Pindell  
Daniel Reeves  
Martha Rosler  
Testing the Limits Collective  
Sarah Tuft  
Edin Velez and Ethel Velez  
Bruce and Norman Yonemoto

### PERFORMANCE ARTISTS

Kathy Acker  
Ana Castillo  
David Chung  
DanceNoise  
Jimmie Durham  
Ethyl Eichelberger  
Guillermo Gomez-Pena  
Ishmael Houston Jones  
John Kelly  
Dan Kwong  
Lydia Lunch and Emilio Cubero  
Robbie Macauley  
Rafael Montanez Ortiz  
Linda Montano  
Reno  
Alva Rogers and Lisa Jones  
Roger Shimomura  
Michael Smith  
Merian Soto and Pepon Osario  
Kaylynn Sullivan Two Trees  
Carmelita Tropicana  
David Wojnarowicz  
David Zambrano

### SERIES OF PANEL DISCUSSIONS

The Graduate School and University Center, City University, 33 West 42nd Street  
(between 5th and 6th Avenues). Admission is FREE.

#### **The Canon: Issues of Inclusion, Exclusion and Dissolution**

*Tuesday, June 5, 7:00 p.m.*

Marimar Benitez, Commissioner of  
Public Affairs, San Juan, Puerto Rico  
David Deitcher, art critic  
John Kuo Wei Tchen, historian of  
Asian American issues  
Judith Wilson, art historian

#### **High Art/Street Culture: Cultural Practices in the 1980s**

*Tuesday, June 12, 7:00 p.m.*

Clyde Casey, head of Another Planet,  
Arts Center for the Homeless, LA  
Sandra Fabara (Lady Pink), artist  
Flora Kaplan, Director, Museum  
Studies Program, NYU; author of  
a forthcoming book on graffiti  
and subway art  
Yolanda Lopez, artist and head of  
the Mission Cultural Center, San  
Francisco  
Raymond Saunders, artist  
Robert Farris Thompson, professor at  
Yale University

#### **Perspectives on Multiculturalism**

*Tuesday, June 19, 7:00 p.m.*

Bill Aguado, Executive Director,  
Bronx Council on the Arts, NY  
G. Peter Jemison, artist  
Robert Lee, Director, Asian American  
Arts Centre, NY  
Howardena Pindell, artist  
Joan Sandler, Northeast Regional  
Representative for the National  
Endowment for the Arts

#### **Open Forum**

*Tuesday, June 26, 7:00 p.m.*