

Artist's choice + Vik Muniz=rebus

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The Museum of Modern Art's exhibition history—from our founding in 1929 to the present—is available online. It includes exhibition catalogues, primary documents, installation views, and an index of participating artists.

ARTIST'S CHOICE + VIK MUNIZ =

REBUS

**THE ONLY REASON
FOR TIME IS SO THAT
EVERYTHING DOESN'T
HAPPEN AT ONCE.**

—ALBERT EINSTEIN

PUBLIC PROGRAM

Vik Muniz on *Artist's Choice, Rebus*

Wednesday, February 11, 6:30 P.M.

Theater 3 (The Celeste Bartos Theater)

4 West 54 Street (near Fifth Avenue)

Taking on the role of curator, Vik Muniz brought together eighty-two works from MoMA's collection and organized them according to the principle of a rebus—a puzzle in which unrelated visual and linguistic elements create a larger deductive meaning. In this program, Muniz discusses the exhibition and his own work.

Tickets (\$10; members \$8; students, seniors, and staff of other museums \$5) can be purchased at the lobby information desk, the film desk, or online at www.moma.org/thinkmodern.

MoMA AUDIO

A MoMA Audio program featuring commentary by Vik Muniz is available free of charge, courtesy of Bloomberg, on MoMA WiFi at www.moma.org/wifi and as a podcast at www.moma.org/audio and on iTunes. The audio program is available in English only. MoMA Audio is a collaboration between The Museum of Modern Art and Acoustiguide, Inc.

FORD FAMILY ACTIVITY GUIDE

A Ford Family Activity Guide developed by Vik Muniz encourages kids ages six and up to discover the connections among objects as they are displayed in the exhibition and, using small reproductions, arrange them to tell a story of their own. Pick up a Family Activity Guide at the education and family desk on the second floor of the Museum (next to Cafe 2) or at the information desk on the third floor.

THE HUMAN BRAIN RESPONDS DIRECTLY TO THE EYE'S INABILITY to process all the visual elements of a scene simultaneously. As our eyes move from one point to another, they create a continuous narrative that is perceived by the brain as a seamless whole. I have often contended that human consciousness emerged from the growing complexity of such optical narratives and our penchant for interacting with the world through cause-and-effect models, graphs, and timelines. The pleasure we derive from Rube Goldberg machines and rows of falling dominos is an echo of one of our most primitive perceptual handicaps. Attention is what enables us to capture a manageable vision of the world, by allowing us to ignore its natural complexity.

Generally, a group exhibition is an assembly of works by different artists arranged according to a chosen theme. However, just as mortar joins bricks together to make a building, the space, both physical and temporal, between works in a gallery is as important a component of an exhibition as the art itself. As a viewer moves through the sequential arrangement of an exhibition, the ideas and forms of each artwork linger and have a cumulative effect. This installation is not bound by a unifying theme, but instead invites the viewer to be conscious of the arrangement of works and aware of the perceptual connections they provoke.

A rebus is a puzzle that combines unrelated visual and linguistic elements to create a single narrative. Borrowing from the rebus's simplified linear structure, I stripped my own group of visual elements (the artworks) from their original taxonomies and focused on forging intuitive connections based on form, color, scale, quantity, function, and pattern. This exhibition encourages viewers to think about the connections between each object and the next. *Rebus* is a cognitive, visual ride that I hope will affect how visitors experience art here and in the rest of the Museum.

—Vik Muniz

The exhibition is organized by Vik Muniz with Eva Respini, Assistant Curator, Department of Photography.

Vik Muniz is the ninth artist to participate in the Artist's Choice exhibition series, in which artists select and install temporary exhibitions of works from the Museum's collection.

The exhibition is made possible by Anne and Kenneth Griffin.

The Artist's Choice exhibition series is made possible through The Agnes Gund Artist's Choice Fund endowed by Iara Lee and George Gund III, Lulie and Gordon Gund, Ann and Graham Gund, and Sarah and Geoffrey Gund.



01. Peter Fischli (Swiss, born 1952), David Weiss (Swiss, born 1946). *The Way Things Go*. 1987. 16mm film transferred to video, 31 min. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Purchase.



02. Sigmar Polke (German, born 1941). *Untitled (Drawing for "Sibener Ziegelstein")*. 1985. Ballpoint pen on paper, 11 1/4 x 9 1/4" (29.8 x 21 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Purchased with funds given by Barbara G. Pine.



17. Gordon Matta-Clark (American, 1945-1978). *Brown Floors*. 1972-73. Wood and linoleum, 42 x 43 1/2 x 11 1/2" (106.7 x 110.2 x 28.9 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Horace H. Solomon.



33. Vija Celmins (American, born Latvia 1938). *To Fix the Image in Memory*. 1977-82. Stones and painted bronze, eleven pairs, dimensions variable. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Edward R. Broida in honor of David and Renee McKee.



34. J. A. Henckels, company design (Germany, est. 1731). *Tailor Shears*. c. 1900. Steel, 13 1/2 x 4" (34.3 x 10.2 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Edgar Kaufmann, Jr., Fund.



03. Bakelite Corporation, company design (USA, est. 1910). *Sample of Laminated Plywood Natural*. c. 1944. Maple plywood and Bakelite, 2 x 8 x 3" (51 x 20.3 x 7.6 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



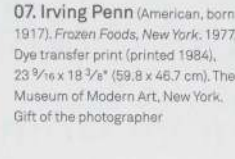
04. Paul Outerbridge (American, 1896-1959). *Untitled*. 1922. Platinum print, 3 1/2 x 4 1/2" (9.0 x 11.5 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of David H. McAlpin.



05. Tom Friedman (American, born 1965). *Untitled*. 1995. Plastic, hair, fuzz, Play-doh, wire, paint, and wood, 36 x 18 x 18" (91.4 x 45.7 x 45.7 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Given anonymously.



06. Unknown designer (Japanese). *Plastic Food*. Before 1977. Plastic hamburger, bun, onion rings, and pickle, dimensions variable. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Greta Daniel Fund and Yale University Fund.



07. Irving Penn (American, born 1917). *Frozen Foods*. New York. 1977. Dye transfer print (printed 1984), 25 1/2 x 18 1/2" (65.8 x 46.7 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the photographer.



08. Unknown photographer (American). *Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios. Ann Blyth Moving into Her New Home*. 1953. Silver dye bleach print (printed 1982), 22 1/2 x 17 5/8" (57.2 x 44.8 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Marvin Heiferman.



09. Jeff Koons (American, born 1955). *New Shelton Wet/Dry Doubledrucker*. 1981. Vacuum cleaners, Plexiglas, and fluorescent lights, 8 1/2 x 28" x 28" (245 x 71.1 x 71.1 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Werner and Elaine Dannheisser.



10. Russell Lee (American, 1903-1986). *Kitchen of Tenant Purchase Client. Hidalgo County, Texas*. 1939. Gelatin silver print, 7 1/2 x 9 7/16" (19 x 23.9 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Purchase.



11. Eric Randmark (Swedish). *Window Blinds*. 1963. Enamelled aluminum and cord, 8' x 48" (243.8 x 121.9 cm). Manufactured by Royal Crest Venetian Blind Co., Roseford, Ohio. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



12. Robert Gober (American, born 1954). *Prison Window*. 1992. Plywood, forged iron, plaster, latex "paint," and electric lightbulbs, opening: 24 x 24" (61 x 61 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the Dannheisser Foundation.



13. Doris Ulmann (American, 1884-1984). *The Chain Gang. South Carolina*. c. 1929-31. Photogravure, 6 1/2 x 8 1/4" (16.2 x 21.2 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller.



14. Marcel Duchamp (American, born France, 1887-1968). *In Advance of the Broken Arm*. August 1964 (fourth version, after last original of November 1915). Wood and galvanized-iron snow shovel, 52" (132 cm) high. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of The Jerry and Emily Spiegel Family Foundation.



15. Gino Colombari (Italian, born 1915). *Kitchen Pail*. 1957. Polyethylene, 10 1/2 x 11" (26.7 x 27.9 cm). Manufactured by Kartell S.p.A., Milan. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



16. Peter Fischli (Swiss, born 1952), David Weiss (Swiss, born 1946). *Things from the Room in the Book*. 1999-2000. Painted polyurethane, dimensions variable, approximately 46" x 20" 8" x 10" 5" (118.8 x 49.8 x 25.4 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Patricia Phelps de Cisneros and Douglas S. Cramer Funds.



17. Gordon Matta-Clark (American, 1945-1978). *Brown Floors*. 1972-73. Wood and linoleum, 42 x 43 1/2 x 11 1/2" (106.7 x 110.2 x 28.9 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Horace H. Solomon.



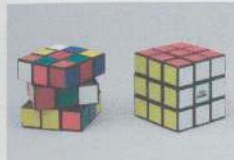
18. Joel Sternfeld (American, born 1964). *Buckingham, Pennsylvania. August 1978*. Chromogenic color print (printed 1987), 13 1/2 x 17 1/2" (34.5 x 43.8 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Beth Goldberg Nash and Joshua Nash.



19. Ladislav Sutnar (American, born Bohemia [now Czech Republic], 1897-1976). *Build the Town Building Blocks*. 1940-43. Painted wood, dimensions variable. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Ctislav Sutnar and Radoslav Sutnar.



20. Gotfried Kirk Christiansen (Danish, 1920-1997-1976). *LEGO Building Bricks*. 1964-68. ABS plastic, dimensions variable. Manufactured by LEGO Group, Billund, Denmark. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



21. Ernő Rubik (Hungarian, born 1937). *Rubik's Cube*. 1974. Plastic, 2 1/4 x 2 1/4 x 2 1/4" (5.7 x 5.7 x 5.7 cm). Manufactured by Ideal Toy Corporation, Hong Kong. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



22. Alberto Giacometti (Swiss, 1901-1966). *Hands Holding the Void (Invisible Object)*. 1934 (cast c. 1954-55). Bronze, 59 7/8 x 12 7/8 x 10" (152.1 x 32.6 x 25.5 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Louise Reinhardt Smith Bequest.



23. Charles Stillwell (American). *Flat-Bottomed Brown Paper Grocery Bag*. 1883. Paper, 10 x 5 x 3" (25.4 x 12.7 x 7.6 cm). Manufactured by Duro Bag Manufacturing Corp., USA. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



24. Zeke Berman (American, born 1951). *Untitled*. 1979. Gelatin silver print, 10 1/2 x 13 1/2" (26.7 x 34.7 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. The Family of Man Fund.



25. Andy Warhol (American, 1928-1987). *Brillo Box (Soap Pads)*. 1964. Synthetic polymer paint and silkscreen ink on wood, 17 1/2 x 17 x 14" (43.3 x 43.3 x 36.5 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Doris and Donald Fisher.



26. Andy Warhol (American, 1928-1987). *Brillo Box (Soap Pads)*. 1964. Synthetic polymer paint and silkscreen ink on wood, 17 1/2 x 17 x 14" (43.3 x 43.3 x 36.5 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Doris and Donald Fisher.



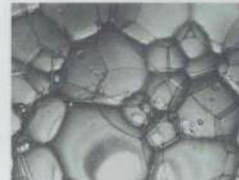
27. Catherine Murphy (American, born 1946). *11 Bells*. 2003. Graphite on paper, 35 1/2 x 42 1/2" (90.2 x 108 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Purchase.



28. Richard Artschwager (American, born 1923). *Untitled*. 1994. Wood and metal, 29 1/2 x 32 1/2 x 42" (74.9 x 82.6 x 106.6 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Agnes Gund and Anna Marie and Robert F. Shapiro Fund.



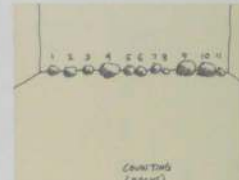
29. Marc A. Chavannes (Swiss, 1899-1994). *Alfred W. Fielding (American, 1917-1994)*. Bubble Wrap® Air Cellular Cushioning. 1960. Polyethylene plastic, 11 1/4 x 11 1/4" (29.8 x 29.8 cm). Manufactured by Sealed Air Corporation, USA. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



30. Berenice Abbott (American, 1898-1991). *Soap Bubbles*. 1946. Gelatin silver print, 10 1/2 x 13 1/4" (26.6 x 33.7 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Ronald A. Kurtz.



31. S.K.F. Industries, Inc., company design (USA). *Steel Balls*. Before 1934. Nickel-plated steel, dimensions variable. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



32. Mel Bochner (American, born 1940). *Counting Rocks*. 1969. Felt-tip pen on paper, 7 1/2 x 6 1/2" (18.3 x 17.1 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Pierre Aproxian.



33. Vija Celmins (American, born Latvia 1938). *To Fix the Image in Memory*. 1977-82. Stones and painted bronze, eleven pairs, dimensions variable. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Edward R. Broida in honor of David and Renee McKee.



34. J. A. Henckels, company design (Germany, est. 1731). *Tailor Shears*. c. 1900. Steel, 13 1/2 x 4" (34.3 x 10.2 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Edgar Kaufmann, Jr., Fund.



35. Martin Creed (British, born 1968). *Work No. 301-A: sheet of paper crumpled into a ball*. 2003. Crumpled paper in Plexiglas on wood pedestal, 49 x 1 1/4 x 8 1/2" (109.2 x 23.8 x 22.5 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. The Judith Rothschild Foundation Contemporary Drawings Collection Gift.



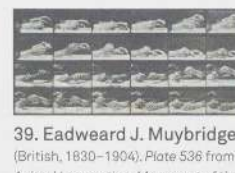
36. John Baldessari (American, born 1931). *Goya Series: And*. 1997. Inkjet and synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 6' 3" x 6' 0" (190.5 x 182.3 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Lee Fund.



37. Art Fry (American, born 1931). *Spencer Silver* (American, born 1941). *Post-It® Note*. c. 1977. Paper and adhesive, 2 1/4 x 2 7/8" (7.3 x 7.3 cm). Manufactured by 3M, USA. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Purchase.



38. Hymen Lipman (American). *Wooden Pencil with Eraser*. 1858. Graphite, cedar wood, rubber, and metal ferrule, 7 1/2 x 1/4 x 1/4" (18.4 x 0.6 cm). Manufactured by Faber-Castell. Germany. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the manufacturer.



39. Eadweard J. Muybridge (British, 1830-1904). *Plate 538 from Animal Locomotion: Movement of the hand, hand changing pencil*. 1884-86. Collotype, 7 1/4 x 16 1/4" (18.1 x 40.1 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum.



40. August Sander (German, 1876-1964). *The Painter Heinrich Heine Drawing the Boxer Hein Dampgren*. 1927-31. Gelatin silver print, 9 x 6 5/8" (22.9 x 16 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Paul F. Walter.



41. John Baldessari (American, born 1931). *I Will Not Make Any More Boring Art*. 1971. Lithograph, sheet: 22 1/2 x 30 1/2" (57 x 76.4 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. John B. Turner Fund.



42. Giovanni Anselmo (Italian, born 1934). *Il Panorama con mano che lo indica*. 1982-84. Pencil on paper and stone, sheet: 10" 1/4 x 6" 8" (30.1 x 20.3 cm); stone: 11 1/2 x 32 1/2 x 25 3/4 x 30 x 82.1 x 64 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of David Dechman and Michel Mercure.



43. Odilon Redon (French, 1840-1916). *Rocks on the Beach*. c. 1883. Oil on paper mounted on canvas, 10 1/4 x 14 1/4" (26.7 x 36.2 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of The Ian Woodner Family Collection.



44. Bill Brandt (British, born Germany 1904-1983). *Nude, Seaford, East Sussex Coast*. 1967. Gelatin silver print, 9 x 7 1/4" (22.9 x 18.5 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of David Dechman and Michel Mercure.



45. Garry Winogrand (American, 1928-1984). *El Morocco*. 1955. Gelatin silver print, 9 1/8 x 13 1/4" (23 x 34 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Purchase and gift of Barbara Schwartz in memory of Eugene M. Schwartz.



46. William H. Johnson (American, 1901-1970). *Blind Singer*. c. 1940. Screenprint with tempera additive, 17 1/2 x 11 1/2" (44.5 x 29.2 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Riva Castleman Endowment Fund and the Friends of Education Fund.



47. Charles Sheeler (American, 1893-1965). *African Musical Instrument*. November 1917. Gelatin silver print, 9 1/8 x 6 1/4" (23.2 x 17.1 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Thomas Walther Collection. Purchase.



48. Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881-1973). *Majaute for Guitar*. October 1913. Cardboard, string, and wire (restored), 25 1/4 x 13 x 7 1/2" (65.1 x 33 x 19 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of the artist.

