Thank you from Glenn D. Lowry

November 2017

Over the past 12 months, we’ve celebrated the first phase of our reconfigured galleries and new public spaces; explored the work of Robert Rauschenberg, Anna Teresa de Keersmaeker, Pedro Almodóvar, Louise Lawler, and Ian Cheng; uncovered dust with Nina Katchadourian’s audio tour; meditated during Quiet Mornings; and even cheered on our very own MoMA Dance Company. These highlights are just the beginning, and we could not have done it all without you.

The first US retrospective of the influential yet elusive artist Francis Picabia, an exhibition of Josef Albers’s rarely shown photographic work, and a celebration of visionary architect Frank Lloyd Wright’s birth all shared new perspectives on modern icons, with works by Alexandra Bachzetsis, Cinthia Marcella, Steve McQueen, and Nastio Mosquito bringing new and important voices to our galleries. A Revolutionary Impulse: The Rise of the Russian Avant-Garde, Unfinished Conversations: New Work from the Collection, and Making Space: Women Artists and Postwar Abstraction examined artistic and historical moments through the lens of our collection. MoMA PS1 presented the first US survey of pioneering British artist Mark Leckey, and our Young Architects Program featured LUMEN, an environmentally responsible installation displaying subtle color in sunlight and emitting glowing light after sundown.

Through our Citizens and Borders initiative, we explored contemporary architecture and design’s response to the global refugee crisis, and highlighted artists in our collection who immigrated to the US, often as refugees in search of safe haven. Through #ArtSpeaks, we’ve heard colleagues throughout the Museum share personal perspectives about works that have special meaning for them and how art makes a difference in the world.

A major gift from Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros added more than 100 works by important Latin American artists to our collection, and with the acquisition of László Moholy-Nagy’s EM 1 (Telephone Picture), we reunited the artist’s three legendary enamel “Telephone Pictures” paintings. Key works by Graciela Carnevale, Le Corbusier, Cheryl Dunye, Ibrahim El-Salahi, El Lissitzky, Julie Mehretu, Bruce Nauman, Dayanita Singh, Agnès Varda, Jack Whitten, and also a Fiat 500, enriched and broadened our holdings.

The renovation of the Museum’s original building, designed by Goodwin and Stone in 1929, has provided a taste of what’s to come in 2019. More spacious, flexible galleries, inviting spaces to pause and relax, and experiments for meeting the ever-changing needs of our diverse audiences all have the same goal: to make the Museum a place where everyone can feel welcome and to show significantly more of our collection. Let’s Talk Art gallery sessions, a new partnership with CUNY, and the People’s Studio also reflect our commitment to collaborating with artists, educators, and community members to spark conversations and new ways of thinking through our collection and exhibitions.

Thank you for all that you have made possible this year, and for your support as we move forward with our building project. Together, we’ll continue to celebrate creativity in all its forms and explore the art, ideas, and issues of our time.

With best wishes for a happy and healthy new year.

Glenn D. Lowry