

# The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

June 12, 1991....At today's meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Museum of Modern Art, at which the annual election of officers took place, Agnes Gund, who has served as a Vice President of the Museum since 1988 and as Chairman of the Trustee Committee on Painting and Sculpture since 1989, was elected President. She succeeds Donald B. Marron, who has served five consecutive one-year terms as President, the maximum period allowed under the Museum's bylaws. At this meeting, Mr. Marron was elected a Vice Chairman.

Mrs. Henry Ives Cobb was elected Vice Chairman Emeritus in recognition of her long service as a Vice Chairman and as President of the Museum. Mrs. Frank Y. Larkin, who was previously Executive Vice President, was elected a Vice Chairman. Re-elected to their posts were David Rockefeller as Chairman, Gifford Phillips as a Vice Chairman, and Ronald S. Lauder and John Parkinson III as Vice Presidents, with the latter also re-elected as Treasurer.

The Museum's new President, Agnes Gund, has been closely associated with the Museum for over twenty years. A prominent collector of postwar art, Ms. Gund has served on the Museum's International Council since 1967 and the Trustee Committee on Painting and Sculpture since 1973. She was elected to the Board of Trustees on November 10, 1976. As a Trustee, Ms. Gund has served as a Vice President of the Museum since June 1988, a Vice Chairman of the Committee on Painting and Sculpture from December 1981 to June 1989, and Chairman of the Committee on Painting and Sculpture since June 1989. She also serves on the Committees on Drawings and Education.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Ms. Gund received a B.A. degree at Connecticut College and an M.A. in art history at the Fogg Museum, Harvard

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University. She is the President and Founder of the Studio In A School Association, an artist-taught program of fine art for children in 110 elementary schools and ten alternative high schools in the five boroughs of New York City. In 1988 she received the Doris C. Freedman Award from the City of New York for her creation of the Studio In A School Association to serve the people of the City. Also in 1988, she and the Studio In A School received a New York State Governor's Arts Award for their significant contribution to the artistic life in the State. Among numerous board affiliations, she is a Trustee of Brown University and of the Andy Warhol Foundation.

Chairman David Rockefeller stated, "With her vision and passion for contemporary art, Agnes Gund has been for many years a guiding force in the activities of the Museum's Painting and Sculpture Committee. The strength of her commitment to the visual arts and to art education is extraordinary, and she is very highly regarded throughout the art community. The Board is extremely fortunate to have Agnes Gund's leadership as President at a time when the Museum is expanding its focus on contemporary art and extending its services to a larger, more diverse public. I look forward to working closely with her on behalf of this institution we both love."

Museum Director Richard E. Oldenburg added, "Agnes Gund is a remarkably dedicated and knowledgeable Trustee. She deeply believes in the importance of art in our lives and in the mission of museums to foster art education, scholarship, and understanding. She respects and values creativity and innovation and enjoys the friendship of many artists. A discerning collector, she is also a very generous donor of works to the Museum's collection. I and all my colleagues on the Museum staff warmly welcome Agnes Gund as our new

President. We also extend our great appreciation to Donald Marron for the many enduring accomplishments of his just completed tenure."

Donald B. Marron has been a Trustee since 1975 and served as a Vice President from 1978 until his election as President. He was also Chairman of the Museum's Expansion Committee, which planned and guided the innovative project to develop the Museum's air rights and greatly expand the Museum. Completed in 1984, this construction and renovation program doubled the Museum's gallery space and provided major new facilities. A major collector of modern and contemporary art, Mr. Marron has long been a member of the Committees on Painting and Sculpture and Prints and Illustrated Books. He is Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of PaineWebber Group.

"Don Marron has been an exemplary President for the past five years," stated Mr. Rockefeller. "Applying his excellent judgment and thorough understanding of the Museum's programs and goals, he has importantly strengthened this institution for the future. During his tenure, the endowment has grown from approximately \$100 million to \$146 million, and the annual fund from \$2.5 million to \$3.8 million. He has strongly and effectively supported a greater emphasis on collecting and exhibiting contemporary art. Toward this purpose, the evolution of the Contemporary Arts Council and the adoption of guidelines which increased contributions from Trustee Committees to acquire recent work are only two examples of his successful efforts. We are most fortunate that, in his new capacity as Vice Chairman, we can continue to rely upon his expertise and enthusiasm."

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