



For Immediate Release

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**10TH EDITION OF EXPO CHICAGO CELEBRATES A DECADE AT NAVY PIER WITH  
OUTSTANDING SALES, DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING, AND STRONG ATTENDANCE OF  
INTERNATIONAL CURATORS AND COLLECTORS**

2023 Edition Welcomed 32,000 Visitors April 13–16, 2023,  
Amplifying Chicago’s Standing as an International Art Destination

CHICAGO—**EXPO CHICAGO**, the International Exposition of Contemporary and Modern Art, concluded its 10th anniversary edition on Sunday, April 16, with strong attendance of international collectors and more than 80 curators and museum directors alongside 32,000 visitors. The fair’s most global edition to date saw exceptional presentations from exhibiting galleries and strong sales both on-site and through the official online viewing room. The exposition welcomed more than 8,500 VIP guests—collectors, curators, museum directors, artists, and art professionals—for an exclusive first look at over 170 leading galleries from 36 countries and 90 cities throughout Navy Pier’s iconic Festival Hall. Also on opening night, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago’s Vernissage raised over \$280,000 for the Museum’s learning programs. EXPO CHICAGO will return to Navy Pier’s Festival Hall on April 11–14, 2024.

“We are thrilled that EXPO CHICAGO’s 10th anniversary edition was distinguished by strong sales, exceptional exhibitions and events, and a city mobilized to welcome a growing community of art dealers, collectors, curators, museum directors, artists, and enthusiasts from around the world,” said **Tony Karman**, President | Director. “The energy and enthusiasm both on-site at Navy Pier and throughout Chicago was palpable—showcasing the support for our participating exhibitors and artists, while resonating deeply with local and visiting patrons,” he added. “I am proud that this edition of EXPO CHICAGO solidified our position on the international art fair calendar and reinforced Chicago’s reputation as a global arts center with leading institutions, galleries, and artists.”

“This year at EXPO CHICAGO was marked by bold programmatic expansion—our /Dialogues public talks program saw record attendance; our Curatorial Initiatives welcomed over 80 curators and museum directors, the largest convening to date; and both our citywide public art installations and EXPO ART WEEK programmatic partnerships filled the week with nightly activations, openings, and events that showcased the depth of Chicago’s commitment to creative collaboration,” said **Kate Sierzputowski**, Director of Programming. “Over the past

decade, the fair has consistently cultivated thoughtful programmatic offerings both on-site and throughout the city, and we look forward to furthering this tradition in the years to come.”

Notable collectors, artists, and patrons, in attendance included:

**Derrick Adams, Richard Bell, Dawoud Bey, Nick Cave and Bob Faust, Ellen-Blair Chube, Anita Blanchard and Martin Nesbitt, Leslie Bluhm, Laura Lee Brown and Steve Wilson, Dimitris Daskalopoulos, Beth Rudin DeWoody, Larry and Marilyn Fields, David Frej and Nancy Lerner, Nate Freeman, Bill Gautreaux, Helyn Goldenberg and Michael Alper, Lisa Goodman and Josef Vascovitz, Michelle Grabner, Jack and Sandy Guthman, Susan and Michael Hort, Chicago’s Mayor-elect Brandon Johnson, Jennifer Litowitz, Zoe Lukov, Vic Mensa, Gary Metzner, Prince Nikolaos of Greece and Denmark, Ron Pizzuti, Abby Pucker, Chance the Rapper, Biff Ruttenberg and Gwen Callans, Michael and Cari Sacks, Richard and Ellen Sandor, Kenny Schachter, Gio Swaby, Amanda Williams, and Hank Willis Thomas.**

Notable curators and museum directors in attendance included:

**Nora Burnett Abrams** (MCA Denver), **Carla Acevedo-Yates** (MCA Chicago), **Taylor Renee Aldridge** (California African American Museum), **Mistura Allison** (Independent Curator), **Sheridan Tucker Anderson** (Arts + Public Life at the University of Chicago), **Lauren Tate Baeza** (High Museum), **Tizziana Baldenebro** (SPACES), **Rehema Barber** (Kalamazoo Institute of Arts), **Ionit Behar** (DePaul Art Museum), **Selam Bekele** (MoAD San Francisco), **Myriam Ben Salah** (Renaissance Society), **Alejo Benedetti** (Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art), **Giampaolo Bianconi** (Art Institute of Chicago), **Sarah Biscarra Dilley** (Forge Project), **Tyler Blackwell** (Speed Art Museum), **Graham C. Boettcher** (Birmingham Museum of Art), **Kate Bowen** (ACRE, Chicago Arts Census), **Henriette Bretton-Meyer** (Kunsthall Charlottenborg), **Laura Burkhalter** (Des Moines Art Center), **Antawan I. Byrd** (Northwestern University), **Yi Cao** (Art Institute of Chicago), **Isabel Casso** (Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego), **Helena Chávez Mac Gregor** (Research Institute of Aesthetics, National Autonomous University of Mexico [UNAM]), **Jadine Collingwood** (MCA Chicago), **Lisa Corrin** (Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University), **Alfredo Cramerotti** (Mostyn), **Amada Cruz** (Seattle Art Museum), **Michael Darling** (Museum Exchange), **Guillaume Désanges** (Palais de Tokyo), **Daisy Desrosiers** (Gund Gallery, Kenyon College), **Grace Deveney** (Art Institute of Chicago), **José Carlos Díaz** (Seattle Art Museum), **Agustín Díez Fischer** (Centro de Estudios Espigas), **Emily Edwards** (Dallas Contemporary), **Natasha Egan** (Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago), **Anne Ellegood** (ICA Los Angeles), **Georgia Erger** (Frye Art Museum), **Robyn Farrell** (Art Institute of Chicago), **Bernardo Follini** (Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo), **Pujan Gandhi** (Minneapolis Institute of Art), **Ann Goldstein** (Art Institute of Chicago), **Alice Gray-Stites** (21c Museum Hotel Chicago), **Madeleine Grynsztejn** (Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago), **Johan Gustavsson** (1646, The Hague), **Andrea R. Hanley** (Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian), **Michelle Hargrave** (Figge Art Museum), **Manique Hendricks** (Frans Hals Museum), **Andria Hickey** (the Shed), **Jule Hillgärtner** (Kunstverein Braunschweig), **Brian Holcombe** (Moss Arts Center, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), **Tammy Yu-Ting Hsieh** (Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts), **Lolita Jablonskienė** (National Gallery of Art, Lithuania), **Jamillah James** (MCA Chicago), **Ashley**

**Janke** (Wrightwood 659), **Alexander Jarman** (Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art), **Yasmijn Jarram** (Kunstmuseum Den Haag), **Eileen Jeng Lynch** (The Bronx Museum), **Nolan Jimbo** (MCA Chicago), **Bana Kattan** (MCA Chicago), **Simon Kelly** (St. Louis Art Museum), **Anne Kielgast** (Kunstforeningen GL STRAND), **Min Jung Kim** (St. Louis Art Museum), **Clare Kobasa** (St. Louis Art Museum), **Viviana Kuri** (Museo de Arte Zapopan [MAZ]), **Jared Ledesma** (North Carolina Museum of Art), **Lauren Leving** (MoCa Cleveland), **Juli Lowe** (21c Museum Hotel Chicago), **Aimé Iglesias Lukin** (Americas Society in New York), **Karsten Lund** (Renaissance Society), **Leilani Lynch** (MCA Denver), **Vanja Malloy** (Smart Museum of Art), **Courtney J. Martin** (Yale Center for British Art), **René Morales** (MCA Chicago), **Jacqueline Saragoza McGilvray** (Contemporary at Blue Star), **Srimoyee Mitra** (Stamps Gallery, University of Michigan), **Victoria Noorthoorn** (Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires), **JoAnne Northrup** (Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art), **Chiara Nuzzi** (ICA Milano), **Katie A. Pfohl** (Detroit Institute of Arts), **Katherine Pill** (Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg), **Anne-Laure Pingréoun** (Alter-Projects), **Julie Poitras Santos** (ICA at Maine College of Art & Design), **Clément Postec** (Ateliers Médicis), **Paul Provost** (Art Bridges), **Veronica Roberts** (Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University), **Julie Rodrigues Widholm** (Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive), **Klaudio Rodriguez** (The Bronx Museum), **James Rondeau** (Art Institute of Chicago), **Anne-Marie Russell** (Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg), **Abigail Satinsky** (Wagner Foundation), **Stephanie Seidel** (Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami), **Claudia Segura** (Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona [MACBA]), **Elizabeth Siegel** (Milwaukee Art Museum), **Virginia Shearer** (Sarasota Art Museum of Ringling College of Art and Design), **Lorelei Stewart** (Gallery 400), **Gary Stoppelman** (Dubuque Museum of Art), **Sally Tallant** (Queens Museum), **Belinda Tate** (Kalamazoo Institute of Arts), **Vincent van Velsen** (Stedelijk Museum), **Christina Vassallo** (Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati), **Asha Iman Veal** (Museum of Contemporary Photography), **Gaëtane Verna** (Wexner Center for the Arts), **Gibran Villalobos** (MCA Chicago), **Rieke Vos** (Teylers Museum), **Hamza Walker** (LAXART), **April Watson** (Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art), **Manuela Well-Off-Man** (IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts), **Juana Williams** (Detroit Institute of Arts), **Leslie Wilson** (Art Institute of Chicago), **Matthew Witkovsky** (Art Institute of Chicago), **Sharmila Wood** (Tarruru), and **Julián Zugazagoitia** (Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art).

The 10th edition marked significant institutional representation, with museum curators, trustees, and patrons from worldwide cultural organizations including 1646, The Hague; 21c Museum Hotel Chicago; ACRE; Alter-Projects; Art Bridges Foundation; Art Institute of Chicago; Ateliers Médicis; Barnes Foundation; Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive; Birmingham Museum of Art; Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University; California African American Museum; Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University; Centro de Estudios Espigas; Chicago Arts Census; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati; Contemporary at Blue Star; Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art; Dallas Contemporary; DePaul Art Museum; Detroit Institute of Arts; Des Moines Art Center; Dubuque Museum of Art; Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum (MSU); Flip Project; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo; Forge Project; Frans Hals Museum; Frye Art Museum; Gallery 400; Gund Gallery at Kenyon College; High Museum; Huntington Museum of Art; IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts; ICA at Maine College of Art & Design; ICA Milano; Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami;

Institute of Aesthetic Research, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM); John Michael Kohler Arts Center; Kalamazoo Institute of Art; Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts; Kunstforeningen GL STRAND; Kunsthal Charlottenborg; Kunstmuseum Den Haag; Kunstverein Braunschweig; LAXART; Lois & Richard Rosenthal Center of Contemporary Art; Milwaukee Art Museum; MCA Chicago; MCA Denver; Minneapolis Institute of Art; MoAD San Francisco; MoCa Cleveland; Moss Arts Center, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Mostyn; Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires; Museo de Arte Zapopan (MAZ); Museum Exchange; Museum of Contemporary Art Denver; Museum of Fine Arts St. Petersburg; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego; Museum of Contemporary Photography; National Gallery of Art (Lithuania); Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art; Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art; New Museum; Newfields; North Carolina Museum of Art; Northwestern University; Palais de Tokyo; Queens Museum; Renaissance Society; Rebuild Foundation; RedLine Contemporary Art Center; Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art; San José Museum of Art; Sarasota Art Museum of Ringling College of Art and Design; Seattle Art Museum; The Shed; Sheldon Museum of Art; SPACES; Speed Art Museum; St. Louis Art Museum; Stamps Gallery, University of Michigan; Stedelijk Museum; Swiss Institute; Tarruru; Teylers Museum; The Bronx Museum of the Arts; ThreeWalls; the University of Chicago; Ulrich Museum of Art; Utah Museum of Contemporary Art; Wagner Foundation; Wexner Center for the Arts; Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian; Whitney Museum of American Art; Winnipeg Art Gallery–Qaumaju; Wrightwood 659; Yale Center for British Art; and more.

EXPO CHICAGO welcomed several new exhibitors in 2023 as well as numerous returning galleries, representing 36 countries and 90 cities. Global exhibitors both new and returning received critical praise for their ambitious presentations and noted strong support from both nationally and internationally renowned collectors, museum curators, and institutions, along with the greater Midwest collector base.

### **FROM THE EXHIBITORS**

"We had an outstanding year at EXPO CHICAGO, the fair was back in full force with a seemingly endless number of museum groups coming by throughout the weekend. We sold major works by Max Ernst and James Nares, alongside numerous contemporary works by Theodora Allen, Sara Anstis, Liam Everett, Vanessa German, and many more."

— **Eric Gleason | Senior Director, Kasmin Gallery, New York**

"The quality of the institutional audience that EXPO CHICAGO delivers is impossible to beat. Curators and directors came through every day, and we not only continued existing relationships, we forged some very important new ones."

— **Lauren Wittels | Director, Luhring Augustine, New York**

"We had a packed booth all day Thursday, and are proud to have placed works by several artists with public and private collections. The VIP preview started off with an important public collection acquiring an incredible work by Marie Watt, who will have a solo exhibition with us in June. We also placed a stunning Roger Brown, who has a solo exhibition up in our Washington Blvd. galleries, with a major private collection. We had institutional interest in works by Miya Ando, Sherman Beck, Alfred Conteh, James Little, Beverly Fishman, Esmaa Mohamoud, and

Allana Clarke. It was so wonderful to be back at EXPO CHICAGO representing our dynamic Chicago community. All eyes are on Chicago and the city has brought its A-game, but that's nothing new—Chicago has always been a force and it seems the rest of the art world is finally catching on. Chicago has a lot to say and people are listening!”

— **Kavi Gupta | Owner and Director, Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago**

“We're thrilled to have placed a significant Ebony G. Patterson tapestry installation in a prominent Chicago collection and have works by Brendan Fernandes, Lavar Munroe, Jake Troyli, and Maia Cruz Palileo now heading to exhibitions at institutions including the Milwaukee Art Museum and Cantor Center for the Arts at Stanford. We also hosted museum groups from the Seattle Art Museum, Nelson Atkins Museum, Nerman Museum, and Museum of Fine Arts St. Petersburg at the gallery for private tours with Maia Cruz Palileo. The curatorial conference and directors forum adds a compelling dimension to this fair.”

— **Monique Meloche | Founder and Owner, moniquemeloche, Chicago**

"The response to the 10th edition of EXPO CHICAGO has been deservedly tremendous. Another successful year, and we look forward to many more."

— **Miles McEnergy | Principal, Miles McEnergy Gallery, New York**

“It was such a pleasure to return to EXPO CHICAGO this year! As always we had an amazing experience connecting with local collectors and institutions.”

— **Kevin Scholl | Senior Director, Sales, Vielmetter, Los Angeles**

“This was my first time presenting Anthony Gallery at an art fair, and I'm ecstatic that I was able to do it in Chicago, the city that I call home. With Anthony Gallery, we showcased two amazing artists and dear friends of mine, Henry Swanson and Andrew Park. The fair ushered in an incredible diversity of people and extraordinary energy. We're excited to participate at EXPO CHICAGO again in the future.”

— **Easy Otabor | Founder and Owner, Anthony Gallery, Chicago**

“There was incredible engagement from museum curators at EXPO CHICAGO. As a program that's focused on historical and institutional engagement it's important to get high visibility. The entire team at EXPO CHICAGO gets an A plus. They make this the highest priority with their programming and gallery relations. It really matters.”

— **Eric Firestone | Founder and Owner, Eric Firestone Gallery, New York City, East Hampton**

“We were thrilled to be part of EXPO CHICAGO's PROFILE section, featuring works by LA-based painter, Ken Gun Min. Our booth was sold out by opening day, with paintings placed in major private collections in New York, Miami, and Houston, and museum collections in the U.S. and China. EXPO CHICAGO is always such an incredible host, bringing together collectors and curators from around the country. We reconnected with many lasting supporters and met several new clients. In addition to the fair, The Smart Museum opened the permanent collection exhibition, *Calling on the Past*, which borrows its title from Amir H. Fallah's painting that won the 2018 Northern Trust Purchase Prize at EXPO CHICAGO. Chicago continues to champion our

artists and their values, and we were as excited as ever to return this year!”

— **Mélanie Faure | Director, Shulamit Nazarian, Los Angeles**

“EXPO CHICAGO’s 10th year edition was an active, engaging, and upbeat fair experience. The support and community of the Chicago art world was evident as artists, collectors, and arts workers came out in full force. We were pleased to forge connections with out of town collectors and galleries as well. Highlights particular to the gallery included Derrick Adams’ Art on theMART projection unveiling on the Merchandise Mart and his installation of functional *Funtime Unicorn* along Navy Pier.”

— **Julia Birka-White | Director, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago**

“Following our debut presentation last year in the Galleries section of EXPO CHICAGO, this year, we were able to place three works with American museums by the close of Saturday. There was an extremely strong institutional presence at the fair.”

— **Maximilian William | Founder and Director, Maximilian William, London**

“As a first time exhibitor, Southern Guild felt and appreciated the support of EXPO CHICAGO and the Chicago art community at large. The fair sparked important conversations and fostered the start of meaningful relationships. We were thrilled to experience the warmth of Chicago with five of our artists who traveled with us, and we look forward to building on this enriching engagement.”

— **Trevyn McGowan | Co-founder, Southern Guild, Cape Town**

“We were thrilled to be back at EXPO CHICAGO this year. It’s always one of our favorite fairs, and Tony outdid himself, as always. Preview day energy was stronger than ever, with major works by Malcolm Mobutu Smith and Henry Bermudez sold as soon as collectors came through the doors. Building on the success of Mobutu Smith’s debut with us in 2022, his new, more figurative ceramic piece *Sending* went to a Chicago collector. Bermudez’s striking large-scale *American Girl Ready for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade* was also acquired, marking a strong EXPO CHICAGO debut for this Philadelphia-based, Venezuelan-born artist.”

— **Lewis Wexler and Sherri Apter Wexler | Owners, Wexler Gallery, Philadelphia**

“Participating in EXPO CHICAGO as a Midwestern gallery, right here in the region, is a truly exhilarating experience. It’s an honor to present our artists’ works in front of such an astute and knowledgeable curatorial and collecting audience. It’s reaffirming to engage with a community that values and celebrates the diversity of artistic expression. We are moved to share our program with such a remarkable audience.”

— **Bridget Finn | Co-owner, Reyes | Finn, Detroit**

“We are so grateful to be the recipient of this year’s Northern Trust Purchase Prize at EXPO CHICAGO, not only is it an important endorsement of Claudia Peña Salinas’ practice but it represents crucial support for a small independent operation like our gallery to continue promoting the work of artists like Claudia who expand the language of contemporary art and shed light on new accounts of influence and historical knowledge.”

— **Manuela Paz | Co-Founder and Director, Embajada, San Juan**

"As the representative of Middle Eastern contemporary art, we are so happy and excited that our solo presentation of recent paintings of internationally rising Iranian artist Moslem Khezri (b. 1984) earned the attention of experts and art enthusiasts. The fair was a great place to strengthen ties with institutions and curators. We are looking forward to coming back next year."

— **Hassan Saradipour | Founder and Owner, SARAI Gallery (SARADIPOUR); Tehran, Mahshahr**

"Manneken Press was pleased to return for EXPO CHICAGO's 10th edition. We presented our most recent fine art print publications, including brand new collaborative monotypes by John Yau and Richard Hull, color aquatints by Jill Moser, handmade paper works and a marble sculpture by Claire Lieberman, monotypes by Anna Kunz and Carlos Andrade, and a large print on silk by Catherine Howe. EXPO CHICAGO's inclusion of special sections such as Editions + Books allows smaller galleries and print publishers to extend the selection of works and price points offered in the fair. The opportunity to share these works with Chicago art collectors, and the quality and scope of this fair will keep us returning to EXPO CHICAGO again and again."

— **Jonathan Higgins | Director, Manneken Press, Bloomington, Illinois**

"After our first participation last year, it's been a great pleasure to be back at EXPO CHICAGO with a solo booth of Matthew Eguavoen and supporting his practice that is dense with meanings and exploring stories behind the portraits' gazes of the Nigeria-based artist. It was a great opportunity for us, increasing our network and knowing the local reality."

— **Maria Gracia de Pedro | Director, Badr El Jundi, Madrid**

"This was our first participation in EXPO CHICAGO and it's been a remarkably productive experience. Being part of the EXPOSURE section is a terrific opportunity to present emerging artists and establish relationships with public and private collections. A substantial amount of Yirui Jia's work has been placed in excellent collections that are based here locally, which was our main objective. The fair also exposed us to other collections from the rest of the nation and overseas who exhibited a great deal of excitement about Yirui's practice. Institutions in Chicago and neighboring states were introduced to her work through this experience as well and expressed a clear intention in continuing to follow Yirui's growth. EXPO CHICAGO has a well-run curatorial program that contributes to the development of young artists. The frenzy and electrifying aura of Yirui's painting is reflected throughout the fair and the rest of the city. It's been a thrill. Life truly imitates art in Chicago. Many thanks to the incredible team at EXPO CHICAGO for this opportunity and for putting together such a successful fair. Happy Anniversary!"

— **Gabriel Kilongo | Founder, Jupiter Contemporary, Miami Beach**

"As we attended the fair for the first time, we were thrilled to see the exceptional response to the works of Alina Frieske, Ekene Emeka Maduka and Rebecca Brodskis. Visitors engaged in knowing more about their works and we were happy to place some pieces in very good collections. The Chicago vibe is different from any other place we have been to, and we were glad to see the great turnout."

— **Fabienne Levy | Founder, Fabienne Levy Gallery, Lausanne**

"We are thrilled to have Wole Lagunju joining the esteemed ranks of the St. Louis Art Museum (SLAM) collection, as a recipient of this year's Northern Trust Purchase Prize, and hope that his work continues to draw attention to the potential interplay between historical Yoruba traditions and how we navigate the contemporary Western landscape."

— **Montague Hermann | Founder and Director, Montague Contemporary, New York**

"With a passion for both new and established artists from South Africa and its diaspora, I am absolutely thrilled to have shown the first body of paintings from Mohau Modisakeng at EXPO CHICAGO. I am especially proud that one of these works was the recipient of the Northern Trust Purchase Prize and will now be in the collection of the Seattle Museum, to be enjoyed and appreciated for many generations. Thank you to the Seattle Museum, the Northern Trust and EXPO CHICAGO."

— **Igsaan Martin | Director, Martin Art Projects, Cape Town**

"We were thrilled to participate in EXPO CHICAGO for the first time this year, where we had the pleasure of experiencing an outstanding program and connecting with esteemed curators and art experts from around the globe. It was a valuable opportunity to foster relationships with institutions and showcase the captivating artwork of Navot Miller, a talented artist based in Berlin who is gaining prominence in the art world. We look forward to furthering the conversation and maintaining an ongoing dialogue with the national and international art professionals we met."

— **Adi Gura | Partner, Braverman Gallery, Tel Aviv**

## **CURATORIAL INITIATIVES**

- The annual **Curatorial Forum**, hosted in partnership with **Independent Curators International (ICI)**, drew curatorial leaders nationwide to the exposition, welcoming close to 50 mid-career and established curators for the eighth year. The Forum gathered a cohort of leading curators, working independently or with an institutional affiliation, providing the opportunity to engage with their peers and explore significant issues relating to curating, programming, institution-building, and audience engagement. The Forum included a series of closed-door sessions at 21c Museum Hotel Chicago and was kicked off with a keynote presentation by **Victoria Noorthoorn**, Director of Museo Moderno, Buenos Aires. To see the full list of forum participants and institutions, click [here](#).

"Over the last decade, EXPO CHICAGO and Independent Curators International (ICI) have collaborated to create an unmatched program for curatorial exchange and networking, producing the Curatorial Forum to collectively address timely questions related to programming, institution building, and audience engagement," said **Renaud Proch**, Executive and Artistic Director, ICI. "The Forum has fostered strong national and regional networks for curatorial and institutional collaboration, and its impact on the American cultural landscape is undeniable. With the Curatorial Forum anchoring ICI's expanding engagement with art communities in Chicago and the Midwest, ICI furthers its mission to support curators and promote experimentation, collaboration, and



international engagement in the curatorial field."

- The annual **Curatorial Exchange**, developed in partnership with foreign consulates and cultural agencies, is a leading international initiative and one of the only in the nation that is focused on funding global curator convenings that foster future collaborations for curators on the local, national, and international level. The 2023 edition of EXPO CHICAGO welcomed the fourth annual and largest-ever Curatorial Exchange, offering 23 select mid-career and established curators from 13 countries the opportunity to engage closely with their peers through a four-day program that included integration with the Curatorial Forum, two closed door sessions hosted at the Art Institute of Chicago, and access to exhibitions, top private collections, artist studios, museums, and institutions during EXPO CHICAGO. To see a full list of the participating exchange curators and institutions, click [here](#).
- This year, the **Chicago Assembly** debuted as part of the Curatorial Forum, bringing together a cohort of Chicago-based curators who convened both prior to and following EXPO CHICAGO to further explore the ideas exchanged throughout the program as well as to identify themes and strategies generated at the Forum that hold special significance for the Chicago community. To see the full list of assembly participants, click [here](#).
- The second iteration of the **Directors Summit** brought together a diverse group of museum leaders from across the country for a three-day series of conversations addressing the future of museum leadership and institutional reinvention. Shaped in partnership with museum consultant **Jill Snyder**, the Directors Summit centered on two public roundtable discussions that examined how to forge an equitable and sustainable movement forward for art museums and institutions. Participants included **Nora Burnett Abrams** (Museum of Contemporary Art Denver); **Daisy Desrosiers** (Gund Gallery at Kenyon College); **Anne Ellegood** (Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles); **Courtney J. Martin** (Yale Center for British Art); **Veronica Roberts** (Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University); **Klaudio Rodriguez** (The Bronx Museum of the Arts); and **Virginia Shearer** (Sarasota Art Museum of Ringling College of Art and Design). The summit included a keynote lecture at the University Club of Chicago by **Paul R. Provost**, founding CEO of Art Bridges, an innovative arts foundation launched by philanthropist and arts patron Alice Walton. The 2023 Directors Summit was supported by Sotheby's, in addition to Risk Strategies and the University Club of Chicago. For more information on the Directors Summit, click [here](#).

"The 2023 Directors Summit built upon the dynamic exchange among emerging museum leaders that launched last year's highly successful inaugural summit. By openly sharing ideas and initiatives, these directors offered refreshing transparency into pressing and urgent leadership challenges. Even more critical is the trust they gained by displaying courage, passion, and humility in advancing equitable and inclusive outcomes for the museum field," said **Jill Snyder**. "This year's cohort, once again representing a highly

diverse group that hails from different geographies, collecting and non-collecting institutions, and university-based and public institutions, delivered equally stimulating and inspiring narratives and an exciting lens into future directions for the field.”

## **PRIZES**

EXPO CHICAGO awarded three distinct prizes awarded on-site at the fair’s 10th anniversary edition: the annual Northern Trust Purchase Prize, the inaugural Barbara Nessim Acquisition Prize, and the inaugural Barbara Nessim Curatorial Travel Award.

- **Northern Trust**, Presenting Sponsor of EXPO CHICAGO, awarded the **Northern Trust Purchase Prize** to three institutions in the East, West and Midwest Regions, marking the second year of its expanded purchase prize, which was previously awarded to only one institution. As recipients, a representative from each institution selected pieces from the fair’s EXPOSURE section, which features an international selection of galleries ten years and younger, curated by Aimé Iglesias Lukin, Director and Chief Curator of Visual Arts at Americas Society. Northern Trust purchased the annual gifts of artworks for the institutions’ permanent collections.

**Seattle Art Museum** acquired the painting *Phahamong III*, by Mohau Modisakeng from Martin Art Projects, the **Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Fla.** acquired *Ahua Can*, a mixed-media sculpture by Claudia Peña Salinas from Embajada, and the **Saint Louis Art Museum** acquired *Irawo II* by Wole Lagunju from Montague Contemporary.

“This second year of our expanded Northern Trust Purchase Prize advances our ongoing commitment to arts and culture on a global scale, by supporting the careers of emerging artists and amplifying recognition of young international galleries. We are delighted to share this award with three museums that will further the reach and impact of contemporary artists across the country.” — **John Fumagalli** | President, Central Region, Northern Trust Wealth Management

- This year ***Auto-da-Fé (Act of Faith)*** by **Selva Aparicio** was purchased and donated to Chicago’s **DePaul Art Museum** as the inaugural **Barbara Nessim Acquisition Prize**. Awarded annually to the DePaul Art Museum through at least 2025, the prize is dedicated to the purchase of an artwork by a woman artist valued up to \$10,000 on view at EXPO CHICAGO. Barbara Nessim, Mary Dinaburg, and DePaul Museum Associate Curator Ionit Behar helmed the 2023 selection committee.
- **Stephanie Seidel**, curator at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) was named the 2023 recipient of the **Barbara Nessim Curatorial Travel Award**, an annual travel grant of \$3,000 awarded to support the curatorial practice of one woman curator attending the Curatorial Forum. Seidel was selected by a committee composed of ICI Director Renaud Proch, Barbara Nessim, and Mary Dinaburg. The award will support Seidel’s work on a forthcoming monograph on the conceptual and theoretical aspects of the work of Betye Saar.

## **CORE PROGRAMS**

The robust programming at EXPO CHICAGO allowed visitors the opportunity to extend discussion and discourse beyond the booths of the fair.

- **/Dialogues**, presented in partnership with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, once again offered panel discussions, conversations, and engaging artistic discourse between today's most respected arts professionals, including a conversation between **Chance the Rapper** and artist **Hank Willis Thomas** focused on catalyzing community building through work with underrepresented artists and public art, including *REACH*, Thomas' upcoming sculptural collaboration with Coby Kennedy at Chicago O'Hare International Airport presented in collaboration with DCASE. The **/Dialogues** stage also presented an exhibition curated by Chance the Rapper of select works produced by artists from his upcoming Star Line Gallery album. Throughout the weekend on the **/Dialogues** stage, Chance the Rapper engaged in conversation with artists **Yannis Davy Guibinga**, **Mía Lee**, and **Nikko Washington**—who each featured work in his curated presentation—in addition to a series of nightly live audio experiences throughout the run of the fair, during which he shared songs from his upcoming album.

Additional highlights of the 2023 **/Dialogues** program include a conversation with **Madeleine Grynsztejn**, Pritzker Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (MCA), alongside **Dimitris Daskalopoulos**, NEON founder and collector, and artist **Brendan Fernandes**; a panel with Center for Native Futures on building organizations for Native communities in the U.S. and Canada; a roundtable with the **curators of the 2023 Venice Architecture Biennale's U.S. pavilion** and members of the **Floating Museum**, 2023 Artistic Team of the **Chicago Architecture Biennial**; a talk with **Richard Bell** focused on protest art and his practice; a discussion between LAXART Director and SAIC Adjunct Professor **Hamza Walker** and **Lisa Graziose Corrin**, Ellen Philips Katz Director of Northwestern University's Block Museum of Art, on Walker's forthcoming exhibition *MONUMENTS*, organized by LAXART and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (MOCA); and a conversation on the exhibition *Forecast Form: Art in the Caribbean Diaspora, 1990s–Today* with the show's curator **Carla Acevedo-Yates**, Marilyn and Larry Fields Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, and participating artists **Suchitra Mattai** and **Cosmo Whyte**. Between panels throughout the weekend, interstitial screenings of ***For Freedoms News*** and **Brendan Fernandes'** large-scale, dance and video installation, *Free Fall, for Camera* (2019) (moniquemeloché) activated the **/Dialogues** stage. Throughout the run of the exposition, visitors could view **/Dialogues** programming, film screenings, and participate in book signings from the Soho House Snug, a community area provided in collaboration with Soho House Chicago. For more information on 2023 **/Dialogues** programming, please visit [expochicago.com](http://expochicago.com).

- Hosted in the Northern Trust Anchor Lounge at Navy Pier, **Exchange by Northern Trust: An Interactive Conversation Around the Art of Collecting** featured focused

panels open to invited VIP guests. Highlights of the 2023 program include panels on building value in a collection with **Aaron Cezar**, Director of the Delfina Foundation and collector **Benedicta M Badia de Nordenstahl**; the future of digital collecting with philanthropist and founder of Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, **Ella Fontanals-Cisneros**; the relationship between Chicago and Paris' artistic communities with gallerists **Mariane Ibrahim** and **Jérôme Poggi** alongside **Guillaume Désanges**, President of Palais de Tokyo; how biennials influence city infrastructure with **Christian Viveros-Fauné**, Artistic Director of Convergence 45 and USF Contemporary Art Museum Curator at Large and **Diana Campbell**, Samdani Art Foundation Artistic Director and Desert X curator; and the lasting impact and legacy of art collections featuring Co-founder of Museum Exchange, **Michael Darling**, and **Anne-Marie Trahan**, Co-founder of Arsenal Contemporary.

- The 2023 **IN/SITU** program, curated by **Claudia Segura** (Curator of Exhibitions and Collection at Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona [MACBA]) and entitled ***Y el mar tomó la palabra (And the sea spoke)***, featured 16 large-scale sculptures, installations, paintings, drawings, and site-specific works installed throughout Festival Hall. IN/SITU featured the work of **Carlos Alfonso** (Casas Riegner, Bogotá), **Richard Bell** (OSMOS; New York, Stamford), **Julien Creuzet** (DOCUMENT; Chicago, Lisbon), **Jeanne Gaigher** (Southern Guild, Cape Town), **Andrea Galvani** (CURRO, Guadalajara), **Paul Mignard** (Galerie Poggi, Paris), **Ebony G. Patterson** (moniquemeloche, Chicago), **Sun Ra** (Corbett Vs. Dempsey, Chicago), **Carlos Rolón** (Hexton Gallery, Aspen), **Nep Sidhu** (Patel Brown; Toronto, Montreal), and **Rosario Zorraquin** (Isla Flotante, Buenos Aires).
- **IN/SITU Outside**, a partnership with the Chicago Park District and the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, presented **Derrick Adams'** *Funtime Unicorn* (2022); **Hank Willis Thomas** and **Coby Kennedy's** upcoming sculpture *REACH; The Garden* (2022), a large-scale inflatable sculpture by **The Floating Museum**, the Artistic Team of the 2023 Chicago Architecture Biennial; **Oscar Tuazon's** sculpture *Natural Man* (2015/2021) in partnership with Luhring Augustine; and **Nancy Baker Cahill's** augmented reality work *STONE SPEAKS*, viewable by QR code over the water's edge at Chicago Horizons. Additionally, across Chicago, 12 new photographs by **Aïda Muluneh** are on view on JCDecaux bus shelters as part of Public Art Fund's exhibition *Aïda Muluneh: This is where I am*. The exhibition is on view in Chicago, New York, and Boston in the United States, and in Abidjan in Côte d'Ivoire from March 1–May 21, 2023. For more information on the 2022 IN/SITU program, click [here](#).
- **OVERRIDE | A Billboard Project**, organized in collaboration with Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), partnered once again with EXPO CHICAGO to further extend its reach throughout the city by placing the work of artists from local, national, and international galleries exhibiting at EXPO CHICAGO alongside unrepresented Chicago-based artists throughout more than 60 digital billboards that make up Chicago's City Digital Network and City Information Panels "CIPs" in the Central Business District. Participating artists included **Lola Ayisha Ogbara**, **Ceargio**

**Bagenda, Pelle Cass** (Foto Relevance), **Rico Gatson** (Miles McEnery Gallery), **Kristin McWharther, Esmaa Mohamoud** (Kavi Gupta), **Aida Muluneh** (Public Art Fund, Jenkins Johnson Gallery), **Max Sansing, Eddie Santana White aka “Edo,”** and **Stephanie Syjuco** (Ryan Lee Gallery, Catharine Clark Gallery). The citywide public art initiative launched April 3 and is on view through April 23. For a complete listing of all OVERRIDE artists and documentation, click [here](#).

- **25 Special Exhibitions** were included in this year’s exposition highlighting EXPO CHICAGO’s mission to illustrate and preserve the important link between the arts, philanthropic, and nonprofit organizations through booth presentations by top museums, universities, organizations, and institutions around the world. For a complete list of participants and projects, click [here](#).
- **Nine Special Projects** were presented inside Festival Hall and around Navy Pier, organized by EXPO CHICAGO. The curated site-specific installation program highlighted large-scale and performative works by emerging and established artists, including dancer and artist Michele Rizzo’s performance *HIGHER xtn.*, which was curated by 2022 Curatorial Exchange participant Jeanette Bisschops as a part of her exhibition *Woo woo Woo* in Booth #451. The program was supported as part of the Dutch Culture USA program by the Consulate General of the Netherlands in New York, and is made possible with financial support from the Mondriaan Fund, the public cultural funding organization on visual arts and cultural heritage in the Netherlands. For a complete list of participants and projects, [click here](#).

For more programming, please visit [expo-chicago.com](http://expo-chicago.com).

## **SPONSORS**

In addition to Presenting Sponsor **Northern Trust**, premier sponsors included **Hindman, Tokio Marine Highland** and **Audi**. Additional sponsors included **Chartwell Insurance Services; TPC Art Finance; Heritage Auctions; The Conservation Center; Fashion Outlets of Chicago; Gallagher; LALIQUE; The Peninsula Chicago; Sotheby’s; Risk Strategies; Terry Dowd, Inc.; The Study at University of Chicago; Valence;** and **Apollo. Ruinart** once again served as the Exclusive Champagne Sponsor, **La Crema** returned as the Official Wine Sponsor and **The Macallan** served as the Official Whisky Sponsor.

Hotel partners included **The Peninsula Hotel Chicago, 21c Museum Hotel Chicago, Chicago Athletic Association, W Chicago Lakeshore, Ambassador Chicago, Loews Chicago, citizenM Chicago,** and **Sable at Navy Pier.**

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The 2023 Curatorial Forum is made possible, in part, by the generous support of presenting sponsors **21c Museum Hotel Chicago** and **the Joyce Foundation**; with additional support by **UAP | Urban Art Projects, Terry Dowd, Inc., and Gallagher**.

The Curatorial Exchange is supported by the **Australian Consulate-General Chicago**; the **Canadian Consulate General**; the **Danish Arts Foundation** and the **Consulate General of Denmark in New York**; **Villa Albertine** and the **Consulate General of France in Chicago**; **Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany Chicago**; the **Goethe-Institut Chicago**; **Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Chicago**; **Consulate General of the Republic of Lithuania in Chicago**; the **Lithuanian Culture Institute**; the **Consulado General de México en Chicago**; **Dutch Culture USA**, a program by the Consulate General of the Netherlands in New York; **Instituto Cervantes of Chicago**; the **Taipei Cultural Center in New York**; and the **British Consulate-General Chicago** with closed door sessions being hosted at the **Art Institute of Chicago**.

The Directors Summit is supported by **Sotheby's, Risk Strategies**, and the **University Club of Chicago**.

### **About EXPO CHICAGO**

EXPO CHICAGO, The International Exposition of Contemporary & Modern Art features leading international galleries alongside a leading platform for contemporary art and cultural programming. Hosted within historic Navy Pier's Festival Hall, EXPO CHICAGO presents a diverse and inventive program, including /Dialogues (presented in partnership with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago) and Exchange by Northern Trust: An Interactive Conversation Around the Art of Collecting, unrivaled talks programs for both public and VIP audiences; IN/SITU, dynamic on-site installations highlighting large-scale sculpture, film, and site-specific work; and major public art initiatives, including IN/SITU Outside, public art installed throughout Chicago Park District locations, and OVERRIDE | A Billboard Project, a curated selection of international artists throughout the city's digital billboard network. The EXPO CHICAGO program also features an unprecedented commitment to host curatorial initiatives during the exposition, including the Curatorial Forum in partnership with Independent Curators International (ICI); the Curatorial Exchange, which partners with foreign agencies and consulates to expand the exposition's global reach; and the Director's Summit, which convenes emerging museum leaders in a series of conversations addressing the future of museum leadership and institutional reinvention. EXPO CHICAGO is presented by Art Expositions, LLC. Under the leadership of President and Director Tony Karman, EXPO CHICAGO draws upon the city's rich history as a vibrant international cultural destination, while highlighting the region's contemporary arts community and inspiring its collector base. For more information on EXPO CHICAGO, visit [epochicago.com](http://epochicago.com).

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