

Art Dealers Association of America Foundation Announces 2019 Museum Recipients of Annual Grant Program

Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art, Museum of Chinese in America,
and Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland to Receive Funding for
2020 Exhibitions Spanning the 19th Century to Today

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New York, NY – December 12, 2019 – The Art Dealers Association of America Foundation (ADAA Foundation) today announced the recipients of its 2019 grants, which are awarded annually to museums around the country. The **Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art** (Shawnee, OK), the **Museum of Chinese in America** (New York, NY), and the **Museum of Contemporary Art (moCa) Cleveland** (Cleveland, OH) will each receive \$15,000 to support the development and presentation of exhibitions opening in 2020. Established in 1970, the ADAA Foundation is generously funded by members of the Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA), a nonprofit membership organization of leading art dealers from across the country. Reflecting dealers’ commitment to advancing art historical scholarship, the ADAA Foundation provides annual funding to support curatorial research and exhibition development and promote the appreciation of art and art history.

Each year, the ADAA Foundation invites art museums with annual operating budgets under five million dollars to apply for grants to advance the development of new exhibitions and research. The Foundation limits the pool of applicants in this way to ensure that grants have a significant beneficial impact on institutions where funds for exhibition development and research are often more difficult to obtain. Chosen by the ADAA Foundation Board, which is comprised of ADAA member dealers, the 2019 museum grantees were selected based on their proposals’ contributions to art historical discourse, offering new and distinct perspectives on various artists, movements, and genres. The grantees’ presentations range from a survey of an under-studied art collective and its influence on Asian American art, to an exploration of the work of a 19th century French artist, to a group exhibition of new commissions alongside key works by Félix González-Torres.

“The exhibitions organized by this year’s grantees represent an incredible range of art historical research and exploration, and we are delighted to help bring them to fruition,” said **Michael Findlay, President of the ADAA Foundation and Director of Acquavella Galleries**. “The ADAA Foundation represents the unwavering commitment of our member dealers to supporting these kinds of rigorous and important projects that enable advancements in the field and encourage appreciation and understanding of art and art history.”

The three exhibitions selected for the 2019 ADAA Foundation grants are:

Godzilla vs. The Art World: 1990-2001

April 23, 2020 through September 13, 2020

Museum of Chinese in America, New York, NY

Godzilla vs. The Art World: 1990-2001 is the first ever survey of the influential but lesser-known art collective Godzilla: Asian American Art Network. The exhibition traces Godzilla's founding during the multicultural movement in the arts in the 1980s and 90s, when minority artists created work that explored subjects through the lens of the artists' distinct identities and perspectives. By mixing mediums freely, these artists addressed themes of history, immigration, colonialism, family, language, displacement, and translation. The exhibition highlights how Godzilla challenged the art world by creating a language and visual vocabulary around Asian American art and traces the collective's influence on a new generation of Asian American artists.

Interesting Times: The Art of Honoré Daumier

July 11, 2020 through August 30, 2020

Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art, Shawnee, OK

Interesting Times: The Art of Honoré Daumier presents approximately 30 of Daumier's lithographs, satirical works through which the 19th-century French artist explored themes including corruption, political ineptitude, and class divides. The exhibition not only showcases how Daumier's lithographs and drawings offer a humorous reflection on the political and social climate of the time during which the artist lived, but it also highlights the ways in which his work influenced French society and political satire. Although Daumier's political cartoons date from almost two centuries ago, this exhibition demonstrates how the topics he addressed maintain contemporary relevance in a period of political discord and social unrest.

F as in Frank

September 24, 2020 through January 24, 2021

Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH

F as in Frank is a full-building group exhibition that brings together different artistic practices to reflect on the power of being frank. The first major exhibition by the Museum's new Chief Curator, Courtenay Finn, *F as in Frank* includes work by Andrea Bowers, EJ Hill, OOIEE, Paul Ramírez Jonas, and Cally Spooner presented alongside and in direct dialogue with the work of Félix González-Torres (1957-1996) in order to underscore the importance of speaking freely and from the heart. Defined as the willingness to speak candidly, openly, and honestly, the word "frank" reinforces the power that comes from using one's voice to directly and sincerely address uncomfortable truths.

Since its inception, the ADAA Foundation has distributed grants to museums, archives, and arts organizations across the country. In 2018, grants were awarded to the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago (MoCP) (Chicago, IL) for

Stateless: Views of Global Migration; the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian (Santa Fe, NM) for *Laughter and Resilience: Humor in Native American Art*, on view through October 4, 2020; and for the forthcoming exhibitions *Beauford Delaney and James Baldwin: Through the Unusual Door* at the Knoxville Museum of Art (KMA) (Knoxville, TN), opening February 7, 2020; and *Joshua Johnson: Portraitist of Early American Baltimore* at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts (Hagerstown, MD), opening July 11, 2020.

About the ADAA

The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) is a nonprofit membership organization that supports the economic and cultural contributions of the nation's leading fine art galleries. The ADAA includes nearly 180 members from 30 cities in the U.S., representing hundreds of established and emerging artists internationally. ADAA members have extensive expertise across primary and secondary markets and established reputations for upholding the best practices in the field. The ADAA serves as a resource and advocate, raising awareness of dealers' critical roles in the international art market and the cultural community. www.artdealers.org

About the ADAA Foundation

The ADAA Foundation, a distinct but connected entity to the ADAA, was established in 1970 to encourage and promote the appreciation of art and art history through its support of vital scholarship and curatorial research. Generously funded by donations from ADAA member galleries, the Foundation has distributed grants to museums, archives, and arts organizations around the country to advance art historical research and exhibition development.

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