

## San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Current and Advance Exhibition Schedule

The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) is one of the largest museums of modern and contemporary art in the United States and a thriving cultural center for the Bay Area. Our remarkable collection of painting, sculpture, photography, architecture, design and media arts is housed in an LEED Gold-certified building designed by the global architects Snøhetta and Mario Botta. In addition to our seven gallery floors, SFMOMA offers 45,000 square feet of free, art-filled public space open to all. Presentations drawn from our outstanding collection of approximately 50,000 artworks are joined by works from the renowned Doris and Donald Fisher Collection and the Pritzker Center for Photography, as well as by the following special exhibitions:

**Please note, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, these dates are subject to change.**

### EXHIBITIONS CURRENTLY ON VIEW:



**Pan American Unity**

June 28, 2021–2023

Floor 1 Roberts Family Gallery

Free to See

In a groundbreaking partnership with City College of San Francisco, SFMOMA hosts Diego Rivera's

monumental mural *The Marriage of the Artistic Expression of the North and of the South on the Continent*, more commonly known as *Pan American Unity*, in the museum's Roberts Family Gallery free space. The mural, originally painted in front of a live audience at the 1940 Golden Gate International Exposition on San Francisco's Treasure Island, is comprised of 10 fresco panels and measures 22 feet high and 74 feet wide (over 1,600 square feet).

It was Rivera's last project outside of Mexico and is not only a treasured part of San Francisco history, but also one of the most important works of public art in the United States. *Pan American Unity* is installed in SFMOMA's free-to-visit Roberts Family Gallery on the ground floor in conjunction with *Diego Rivera's America*.

Diego Rivera, *The Marriage of the Artistic Expression of the North and of the South on this Continent (Pan American Unity)*, 1940; © Banco de México Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico D.F. / Artist Rights Society (ARS), New York; image: courtesy City College of San Francisco



**New Work: Wu Tsang Presents Moved by the Motion**

October 16, 2021–June 5, 2022

Floor 4

Single Gallery Presentation

For her *New Work* commission, artist Wu Tsang will create a new sound installation that explores the concept of the B-side. The soundscape will be made in collaboration with Moved by the Motion, a loosely affiliated "band" of interdisciplinary artists who have been creating live performance and film together since 2013. As a filmmaker, movement-based artist and performer, Tsang

uses a range of mediums and environments to interrogate constructions of gender, race, class and meaning.

*New Work: Wu Tsang Presents Moved by the Motion*, October 16, 2021- June 5, 2022 (installation view at SFMOMA); photo: Katherine du Tiel



**Constellations: Photographs in Dialogue**

November 20, 2021–August 21, 2022

Floor 3

*Constellations: Photographs in Dialogue* explores how additions to the collection expand, deepen and complicate the stories a museum can tell. From Edward Weston to Zanele Muholi, the exhibition weaves together historical and contemporary voices, forging new connections within established collecting areas and bringing fresh narratives to light. The photographs on view showcase the collection's strengths, particularly in Japanese photography, the documentary tradition and work by Bay Area artists. *Constellations* also highlights SFMOMA's ever-expanding contemporary photography holdings, featuring artists such

as Poklong Anading, Daisuke Yokota, Wendy Red Star and Clare Strand alongside familiar favorites including Imogen Cunningham and Ansel Adams.

Wendy Red Star, *Fall*, from the series *Four Seasons*, 2006, printed 2017; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, gift of Loren G. Lipson, M.D.; © Wendy Red Star



### **A Living for Us All: Artists and the WPA**

March 26–July 24 2022

Floor 2

During the Great Depression (1929–1939), the United States government provided vital aid to thousands of artists, public art projects, and education initiatives through the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Drawn primarily from SFMOMA’s allocation of WPA work, this exhibition explores the variety of approaches that artists embraced in this period to examine their communities and circumstances. Working in painting, photography, printmaking, and even weaving, some focused on themes of labor and daily life, while others turned to abstraction or surrealism. All engaged in

aesthetic experiments and formal innovations made possible by the program’s financial support. Advancing the radical idea that art is a public resource, the WPA offered a new model for the artist’s role in society.

Image: Sonya Noskowiak, *Worker’s Hands*, 1937; Collection SFMOMA, The United States General Services Administration, formerly Federal Works Agency, Works Projects Administration (WPA), allocation to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; photo: Don Ross

### **UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS:**



### **Shifting the Silence**

April 9–September 5, 2022

Floor 7

*Shifting the Silence* features dynamic works by 32 women artists who use the radical language of abstraction to enhance our understanding of the world we inhabit. Named after artist Etel Adnan’s 2020 book about history and existence, *Shifting the Silence* embraces experimentation, impermanence and subjectivity — bold yet poetic characteristics that mark the art of our time.

Featuring recently acquired works by Firelei Báez, Nairy Baghramian, Liz Hernández, Cinthia Marcelle, Tania Pérez Córdova, Lorna Simpson and Haegue Yang, *Shifting the Silence* harnesses their

defiant, yet enlightened energy to explore visual culture, the motivations of its practitioners and its varied influences. This experiential exhibition of art produced over the last quarter century includes sculpture, photography, textile, video, painting and time-based installation.

Firelei Báez, *Untitled (Baubo)*, 2020; collection SFMOMA, Shawn and Brook Byers Fund for Women Artists and purchase, by exchange, through a gift of Peggy Guggenheim; © Firelei Báez



### **Speculative Portraits**

April 9–September 5, 2022

Floor 7

From analysis of DNA to emotional sentiments, the contemporary artists in *Speculative Portraits* draw from scientific research and technology to expand on ideas of portraiture, identity and human presence. Spanning digital animation to sculpture, the presentation brings together select loans and works from the media arts collection by Heather Dewey-Hagborg, Lynn Hershman Leeson, Rhonda Holberton, Mika Tajima and Gail Wight. A key point of departure for the exhibition and a major acquisition, Lynn Hershman Leeson's installation *Room #8* (2006-18) culminated from

the artist's 12-year investigation into the biological nature of identity.

Mika Tajima, *Human Synth* (Los Angeles), 2019; collection of Mihail Lari and Scott Murray; photo: Flying Studio, Los Angeles, courtesy the artist and Kayne Griffin, Los Angeles; © Mika Tajima



### **Susan Philipsz: Songs Sung in the First Person on Themes of Longing, Sympathy and Release**

Opening April 9

Floor 7 Terrace

This sound installation offers a contemplative listening experience for visitors as they enjoy panoramic views of downtown San Francisco and the full reopening of SFMOMA's outdoor terrace since its temporary closure in March 2020. A single speaker will feature the U.S. debut of *Songs Sung in the First Person on Themes of Longing, Sympathy and Release* (2003) by the Berlin-based, Scottish artist Susan Philipsz. In this 13-minute presentation, the artist is heard

singing acapella versions of songs by Teenage Fanclub, Soft Cell, The Smiths, and Gram Parsons. She often uses popular music in her work because of its capacity to evoke emotional responses and collective memories.

7th Floor Sculpture Terrace at SFMOMA; photo: Beth LaBerge, courtesy SFMOMA

### **Diego Rivera's America**

July 16, 2022–January 2, 2023

Floor 4

The most in-depth examination of the artist's work in more than 20 years, *Diego Rivera's America* will provide a new critical and contemporary understanding of one of the most aesthetically, socially and politically ambitious artists of the 20th century. Through a careful selection of some 160 objects, the exhibition will explore central

themes of Rivera's work in Mexico and the United States from the early 1920s through the early 1940s. During these two key decades in a prolific career, Rivera created a new vision for North America, informed by his travels in Mexico and the United States.

Featuring extraordinary easel paintings, drawings, and portable frescoes, as well as filmed projections of murals, the exhibition will highlight the close relationship between Rivera's mural and studio practices. *Diego Rivera's America* will revisit a historical moment when Rivera, more than any other artist of his time, was instrumental not only in forging Mexican national identity, but also in imagining a shared American past and future.

Image: Diego Rivera, *Flower Seller*, 1926; Honolulu Museum of Art, gift of Mr. and Mrs. Philip E. Spalding, 1932; © Bancode México Diego Rivera & Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F./Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York; photo: courtesy Honolulu Museum of Art



**Amalia Mesa-Bains**

***Venus Envy I***

***Madrinas y Hermanas***

June 18, 2022–November 6, 2022

Floor 2

Amalia Mesa-Bains presents a two-part exhibition featuring the autobiographical installation *Venus Envy, Chapter I: The First Holy Communion Moments Before the End* and *Madrinas y Hermanas (Godmothers and Sisters)*, a selection of works from SFMOMA's permanent collection curated by the artist.

Presented for the first time since it was originally realized in 1993, *Venus Envy, Chapter I* is the first of a series of autobiographical installations Mesa-Bains created over several decades. Starting from the artist's childhood experience of her first Holy Communion, the installation displays objects, images, mementos and clothing and examines codes of gender in Catholic rituals and

ceremonial rites of passage.

Spanning two adjacent galleries is *Madrinas y Hermanas (Godmothers and Sisters)*, featuring works drawn from the museum's collections. Accompanied by texts written by Mesa-Bains, the selection includes the works of artists by whom she was inspired, such as Frida Kahlo, as well as by friends and peers Yolanda López, Mildred Howard and Hung Liu, among others.

Amalia Mesa-Bains, *Venus Envy I (or The First Holy Communion Moments Before the End)* (detail), 1993/2022; courtesy the artist and the Rena Bransten Gallery; photo: Amalia Mesa-Bains; © Amalia Mesa-Bains



***Julian Charrière: Erratic***

August 6, 2022–May 14, 2023

Floor 7

The fascinations of the Arctic and Antarctic have captured our collective imagination for centuries. For the last decade, French-Swiss artist Julian Charrière has traveled to remote and hostile polar regions to explore humankind's interconnection with these otherworldly environments that have come to represent the precariousness of our future.

The artist's first solo exhibition on the West Coast, *Julian Charrière: Erratic* presents works across media that revolve around the artist's poetic engagement with ice landscapes challenging our constructs of different temporalities, while bringing attention to the traces and longstanding effects of human interferences in nature. The central work of this cinematic and sensory filled exhibition is *Towards No Earthly Pole* (2019), a panoramic film combining haunting footage of glaciers taken at night during the artist's expeditions to various glacial regions.

Through immersive encounters with Charrière's work in this timely exhibition, visitors are invited to approach an environmentally, culturally and politically charged geography with a heightened sense of ecological awareness.

Julian Charrière, *Towards No Earthly Pole*, (installation view, MASI Lugano); Julian Charrière/VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn, Germany; photo: Jens Ziehe



***Sightlines: Photographs from the Collection***

August 6, 2022–May 7, 2023

Floor 3

*Sightlines: Photographs from the Collection* illuminates some of the myriad ways that SFMOMA's expanding contemporary holdings intersect with and diverge from earlier photographic traditions. Spanning the history of the medium, this dynamic presentation of over 200 photographs examines various themes, including studio portraiture and the relationship between the body and the landscape.

One gallery is devoted to Louis Carlos Bernal's vibrant color photographs of the Southwest from the late 1970s. A suite of galleries considers the question of what constitutes a photograph through a selection of works made without a camera, from Man Ray's humorous and irreverent photograms to a large-scale cyanotype installation by Meghann Riepenhoff.

Seydou Keïta, *Untitled*, 1952–1955, printed 1996; collection SFMOMA, Foto Forum purchase; © Seydou Keïta / SKPEAC



***Conversation Pieces: Contemporary Furniture in Dialogue***

August 20, 2022–June 25, 2023

Floor 6

*Conversation Pieces* brings together over 40 works of contemporary design, each beginning a dialogue, emphasizing intellectual and emotional connection, and at times, shifting to a complex and imperative demand for broader cultural attention.

Mid-20th century modern design became a symbol of social progression, an outward expression of shaking off a post-war historical weight and an opportunity to start anew. Industrial fabricators were enthusiastically venturing into mass-produced consumer goods production as military demands were dwindling. Many decades later, the popularity of mid-century modern design still has a firm hold on the consumer market; however, 21st century contemporary designers are shifting the conversation, and reintroducing cultural meaning into furniture. By drawing attention to domestic material culture, the works on view engage with issues of purpose, representation and sustainable

fabrication.

Organized in collaboration with Los Angeles-based interior designer Alexandra Loew, the exhibition is designed to be welcoming and informal, with benches for visitors at the same height as the works on view and including audio from several designers. In keeping with the larger collection mission to recognize thought-provoking critical works of architecture and design, the works on view are sometimes jarring, often bold and always conversation starters.

Germane Barnes, *Uneasy Lies the Head that Wears the Crown*, 2020; collection SFMOMA, Accessions Committee Fund purchase; © Germane Barnes



***New Work: Toyin Ojih Odutola***

September 3, 2022–January 22, 2023

Floor 4

Toyin Ojih Odutola's *New Work* exhibition is set in the year 2050 in Eko, the Yoruba name for today's Lagos. Inspired by the speculative fiction of Octavia E. Butler and the poetry of Dionne Brand, this new body of work contemplates how bodies, psyches and architectures might respond to an overpopulated, mutated world. Conceived during the pandemic lockdown and following Ojih Odutola's *A Countervailing Theory* exhibition at the Barbican Centre, London (2020); Kunsten Museum of Modern Art Aalborg, Denmark (2021); and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C. (2021–2022), *New Work: Toyin Ojih Odutola* melds storytelling forms to consider African and other global futures.

Born in 1985 in Ile-Ife, Nigeria and based in New York, Ojih Odutola is known for her drawings of figures, interior architectures and landscapes that call on references ranging from art history to the artist's own upbringing. Often produced in narrative series, her drawings describe scenes or chapters of

overarching universes. The artist's distinctively layered method of mark-making highlights topographies of skin and surface.

Toyin Ojih Odutola, *Local News*, 2021; © Toyin Ojih Odutola; courtesy the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York

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