



MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM

NEWS RELEASE

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**MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM'S ADVANCE SCHEDULE OF EXHIBITIONS
THROUGH SUMMER 2017**

**Line-up features first exhibition to examine
French master Henri Matisse's influence
on American Modern art**

**Exhibitions also include solo shows of Dannielle Tegeder and Janet Taylor Pickett
and participatory contemporary art exhibition *do it!***

MONTCLAIR, NJ, July 1, 2016—The 2016–2017 season at the Montclair Art Museum (MAM) features two solo exhibitions of woman artists: Dannielle Tegeder and Janet Taylor Pickett. Tegeder's site-specific installation, large-scale mobile, and series of animations blend the interior and exterior spaces of the Museum while Taylor-Pickett's *The Matisse Series* explores the dialogue between her artwork and that of renowned French artist Henri Matisse. Also this fall, *do it!*, a participatory contemporary art exhibition based on artists' instructions, presents an exhibition unlike any other the Museum has hosted.

This spring will offer a premier exhibition on the French master Henri Matisse's influence on American Art, the first to examine the full range of his impact from 1907 to the present. *Matisse and American Art* is accompanied by a comprehensive catalogue and concurrent show of the Montclair Art Museum's collection, *Inspired by Matisse*.

Following are descriptions, current as of this date, of the exhibitions.

Dannielle Tegeder: Infrastructure

Through June 2017

The Montclair Art Museum (MAM) presents new works by artist Dannielle Tegeder in MAM's Laurie Art Stairway and on the outdoor video monitors. ***Infrastructure*** features a site-specific wall installation, large-scale mobile, and series of animations that merge the interior and exterior spaces of the Museum. The exhibition is organized by Alexandra Schwartz, curator of contemporary art, and will be on view through June 2017.

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Each piece in the exhibition is its own imagined urban system that also reacts to the surrounding architecture. Prominently featured in The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation Art Stairway, a wall of glass windows allows the artwork on view to be visible from the street and viewers to see out on to the Museum's grounds and beyond to the Manhattan skyline. The wall installation and mobile draw from the infrastructure that exists behind the Museum's walls as well as reflect what is going outside of them. A complementary pair of animations on MAM's outdoor video monitors are digital renderings of drawings that are set to motion to rhythms of contemporary classical composer Matthew Evan Taylor. The original drawing for the animation *Zeolfrora* is a recent acquisition to MAM's collection.

Dannielle Tegeder is a New York-based artist raised in a family of steamfitters, whose fascination with architecture, urbanism, and engineering inspire her abstract drawings, paintings, installations, and illustrations. Her work explores abstraction, and has begun to include large-scale installation, sculptural objects, video, sound, and animation. Tegeder received her BFA from the State University of New York at Purchase and her MFA in Painting and Drawing from The School of The Art Institute of Chicago. Her work has been presented in over 100 gallery exhibitions, both nationally and internationally, and she has participated in numerous institution exhibitions including PS1/MOMA, The New Museum, and Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. Tegeder's work is also in the permanent collections of The Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and The Weatherspoon Museum of Art in Greensboro, N.C. She is currently an Associate Professor of Art at the City University of New York at Lehman College.

This exhibition is also part of MAM's New Directions series, the centerpiece of the Museum's contemporary art program. New Directions was founded in 2011 to engage the community with new work that is at once accessible and thought provoking. The contemporary art series has featured artists including Marina Zurkow, Saya Woolfalk, Spencer Finch, and Noah Klersfeld.

do it!

September 10–December 31, 2016

Rather than an exhibition of objects created by artists, ***do it!*** is a collection of conceptual instructions provided by renowned artists that serve as a point of departure for interpretation by the community at the host venue. A highly participatory contemporary art exhibition, it will bring together the surrounding community to create a truly site-specific experience. It is on view at the Montclair Art Museum from September 10, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

The project originated in Paris in 1993 during a conversation between curator Hans-Ulrich Obrist and artists Christian Boltanski and Bertrand Lavier. Obrist was concerned with how exhibition formats

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could be rendered more flexible and open-ended. This discussion led to the question of whether a show could take “scores,” or written instructions by artists, as a point of departure, each of which could be interpreted anew every time they were enacted. To mark the 20th anniversary of this landmark project, Obrist collaborated with ICI to create a new version of the exhibition presenting the largest selection of instructional works to date. It is now the longest-running, most far-reaching show ever to take place. Coordinated for the Museum by Leah Fox, director, Vance Wall Art Education Center, and Gail Stavitsky, chief curator, this project coincides with the launch of the newly constructed Vance Wall Art Education Center, completed spring 2016.

Each *do it!* exhibition is uniquely site-specific because it engages the local community in a dialogue that responds to a particular set of instructions. The Montclair Art Museum has selected 27 instructional works from a list of 250, all of which are featured in the book *do it the compendium* (2013). The list of artists includes **Robert Barry, Louise Bourgeois, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Sol LeWitt, and Yoko Ono**. Members of the community and Montclair area organizations will be engaged in the planning and implementation of many of these projects before the opening of the exhibition. Several projects will be ongoing and will engage visitors to the Museum on a regular basis, especially those of Yuri Aran, Alison Knowles, Yoko Ono, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, and RAQ Media Collective.

Janet Taylor Pickett: The Matisse Series

September 10, 2016–June 18, 2017

Janet Taylor Pickett: The Matisse Series explores the dialogue between Taylor Pickett’s artwork and that of renowned French artist Henri Matisse. Featuring 76 collages and 4 handmade books, it spotlights the ongoing creative conversation between the two artists and the profound impact of Matisse on Taylor Pickett’s art. It is on view September 10, 2016–June 18, 2017.

A highlight of the exhibition will be the installation of *Sixty Six Dresses: An Odyssey*, 2014-15. Referring to the artist’s age at the time of its creation, this work will be augmented by two additional collaged dresses to match her current age when the exhibition opens. In many of her dresses, Taylor Pickett juxtaposes images of African sculpture, textiles, and cultural elements, with details from Matisse’s work, typically procured from exhibition catalogue reproductions. This multicultural dialogue is at the heart of her complex, archetypal work, which often features portraits of the artist herself. The artist’s interest in light, color, and multiple perspectives is also pervasive in some of her recent works in which she combines elements of Matisse’s work with tripartite spaces evoking medieval altarpieces, unifying past and present times.

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This is the second time the artist has been featured in a one-person show at MAM; the first *More than One Way Home* in 1997 was a 25-year mid-career survey. Furthermore, the artist taught classes in the Museum's Yard School of Art and served on the Museum's Board of Trustees, as well as its African American Cultural Committee, which she co-founded. Taylor Pickett will also be represented in two concurrent complementary exhibitions, *Matisse and American Art* and *Inspired by Matisse: Selected Works from the Collection*, opening February 2017.

Janet Taylor Pickett: The Matisse Series is co-organized by Gail Stavitsky, MAM chief curator, and independent art consultant Kathy Imlay.

Matisse and American Art

February 5–June 18, 2017

From February 5 to June 18, 2017, Montclair Art Museum will present ***Matisse and American Art***, the first exhibition to examine this French master's profound impact upon the development of American modern art from 1907 to the present. His art has provided a liberating model for American artists' varied explorations of vibrant color, strong, fluid lines, and clear compositional structures in their pursuits of self-expression.

Featuring 68 paintings, archival objects, sculpture, prints, and works on paper, *Matisse and American Art* will juxtapose 19 works by Matisse with 49 works by American artists, including Max Weber, Alfred Maurer, Maurice Prendergast, Stuart Davis, Richard Diebenkorn, Robert Motherwell, Ellsworth Kelly, Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, Romare Bearden, John Baldessari, Sophie Matisse, Faith Ringgold, and others. Matisse's transformative impact on their works is revealed not only by their adaptations of his palette and pictorial structures but also through their choice and appropriation of his subject matter—still lifes, landscapes, figurative works, studio interiors, and portraits. While previous projects have illuminated Matisse's relationship with postwar artists, this will be the first exhibition to expand Matisse's impact beyond the typical focus upon the New York School by extending it back to the beginning of the 20th century and forward to the 21st.

The exhibition will open with an introductory section evoking a range of responses to the master, from the early 20th century study by his student Morgan Russell to Faith Ringgold's late 20th century appropriation titled *Matisse's Model*, with a fictional character based on the artist, Josephine Baker, and other modern young women of color. The exhibition then proceeds with early 20th century explorations of the nude as seen in the work of Matisse's students Max Weber and Sarah Stein, as well as William Zorach and Maurice Prendergast. The next section of the show addresses Matisse's theme of the window

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as a metaphor for the dialogue between the interior world of the artist and the external world of reality. An archival section featuring Matisse on the cover of *Time* magazine in 1930, as well as various exhibition catalogues and publications, will serve as an orientation to the history of the dissemination of Matisse's influence. The final sections of the exhibition explore Matisse's pervasive postwar impact on artists, especially in terms of the bold, simplified profiles and vibrant colors of his cut-outs. Works by Ellsworth Kelly, Robert Motherwell, Stuart Davis, Judy Pfaff, Romare Bearden, and the illustrator Eric Carle represent the wide-ranging responses to Matisse's inventive "drawing with scissors." The exhibition concludes with the work of Roy Lichtenstein, Tom Wesselman, Andy Warhol, Janet Taylor Pickett, and John Baldessari, who have appropriated and adapted Matisse's classic themes of the dance, the studio, the nude, portraiture, and the goldfish bowl as varying approaches to his universal art and fame.

The exhibition is organized by Gail Stavitsky, MAM chief curator, with Dr. John Cauman and Lisa Mintz Messinger. It is complemented by a major scholarly catalogue, *Matisse and American Art*, and a concurrent exhibition of the Montclair Art Museum's collection *Inspired by Matisse*.

About the Museum

The Montclair Art Museum, a notable, community-based institution with an international reputation, boasts a renowned collection of American and Native American art that uniquely highlights art making in the United States over the last three hundred years. The collection includes more than 12,000 objects: paintings, prints, original works on paper, photographs, and sculpture by American artists from the 18th century to the present, as well as traditional and contemporary Native American art and artifacts representing the cultural developments of peoples from all of the major American Indian regions.

The Vance Wall Art Education Center, launched in 2016, encompasses all the Museum's educational efforts, from the established Yard School of Art to newly minted MAM Art Truck. MAM programs serve a wide public of all ages and bring artists, performers, and scholars to the Museum on a regular basis. The Yard School of Art offers a multitude of comprehensive courses for children, teens, adults, seniors, and professional artists and has been recognized in the Discover Jersey Arts People's Choice Awards as the Favorite Adult Art Class and Favorite Art Camp two years in a row.

The Montclair Art Museum is located at 3 South Mountain Avenue in Montclair, N.J. Information and directions are available on the Museum website, montclairartmuseum.org, or by calling 973-746-5555. MAM is open Wednesdays through Sundays, Noon – 5 p.m., and on the first Thursday night of the month (October–June), from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. It is closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, and major holidays. Museum admission is \$12 for nonmember adults, \$10 for senior citizens and students with I.D., and free for members and children under 12. Free First Thursday Nights and Free First Fridays are free for everyone. The Store at MAM is open Tuesdays through Sundays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and has extended hours until 9 p.m. on Free First Thursday Nights.

All Museum programs are made possible, in part, by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, Carol and Terry Wall / The Vance Wall Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and Museum members.

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