CI:99/00

Carnegie International 1999/2000

Carnegie Museum of Art
4400 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15213-4080
Tel 412.688.8690
Fax 412.622.3112
www.carnegieinternational.org

NEWS RELEASE

Nov 6, 1999 - Mar 26, 2000

1999 Carnegie International Advisory Committee Biographies

The members of the 1999 Carnegie International Advisory Committee are among the most engaged and widely respected members of the international art community. They have advised the curator, Madeleine Grynsztejn, on the contents of the show and constitute the jury for the Carnegie International Prize. As outstanding leaders in the contemporary art world, each committee member greatly enhances the development of the 1999 Carnegie International.

Okwui Enwezor

Artistic Director of Documenta, Kassel, Germany

Nigerian poet and critic Enwezor is the adjunct curator of Contemporary Art at The Art Institute of Chicago. His writing has appeared in numerous art magazines as well as exhibition catalogues including Future, Present, Past (47th Venice Biennale). Enwezor was the artistic director of the 1997 Johannesburg Biennial and curator of In Sight: African Photographers, 1940 to the Present (Guggenheim Museum, New York) and Global Conceptualism/Local Contexts (Queens Museum of Art, New York). He served as a juror for the Guggenheim Museum's 1998 Hugo Boss Prize.

Susanne Ghez

Director of The Renaissance Society, University of Chicago
During Ghez's 25-year tenure at the University of Chicago, she has
organized over one hundred exhibitions of established and emerging
contemporary artists. She has also served as guest curator for Los
Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions; The Museum of contemporary Art,
Chicago; and Artists Space, New York. Since 1979, Ghez has served in
consulting and advisory positions for numerous institutions, including
the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Awards; The National Endowment for
the Arts; The Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York; and the Whitney
Museum of American Art, New York.

Lars Nittve

Director of the Tate Gallery of Modern Art, London
Born in Sweden, Lars Nittve was formerly director at the Louisiana
Museum of Modern Art in Humblebæk, Denmark. Additional positions have
included senior curator and acting director of the Moderna Museet in
Stockholm, and founding director of the Rooseum in Malmö, Sweden.
Nittve has served as correspondent for Artforum and written and edited
numerous publications about contemporary art. Recent curatorial
projects include Sunshine and Noir - Art in LA 1960-1997 and NowHere.
Nittve has served on over 20 boards and juries over the past ten years,
including the Venice Biennale; the Turner Prize, Tate Gallery, London;
Site Santa Fe, New Mexico; the DAAD, Berlin; and the Philip Morris Art
Award, Japan.

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CONTACT: Robin DeSantis Moorcroft CI99 Media Relations Specialist 412 / 622-3316

> Tey Stiteler Communications Manager 412 / 688-8690

1999 Carnegie International Fact Sheet

What:

The Carnegie International is one of the most prestigious exhibitions in the world, and among the most challenging and influential international surveys of contemporary art in North America.

The 1999 Carnegie International will be the 53rd installment in this exhibition series founded at the behest of Andrew Carnegie in 1896. It is the longest running survey of contemporary art in North America, and with the Venice Biennale, the senior such exhibition in the world. Painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media works, as well as film and video installations by approximately 40 artists from around the globe will be featured in the exhibition.

Where:

Carnegie Museum of Art, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. The Andy Warhol Museum, 117 Sandusky Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.

When:

Opening Saturday, November 6, 1999, and on view through March 26, 2000.

History:

When Andrew Carnegie founded Carnegie Museum of Art, his goal was to introduce the people of Pittsburgh to artworks by contemporary American and European artists. His acquisition program centered on an annual exhibition (started in 1896) of contemporary art, now known as the Carnegie International, from which "the Old Masters of tomorrow" have been purchased for the Museum's permanent collection.

1999 Exhibition:

The 1999 Carnegie International is being organized by Madeleine Grynsztejn, curator of contemporary art at Carnegie Museum of Art. The exhibition's advisory committee is comprised of Okwui Enwezor, poet, critic, and artistic director of Documenta XI; Susanne Ghez, director of The Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago; and Lars Nittve, director of the Tate Gallery of Modern Art.

Sponsorship:

Major corporate support for the 1999 Carnegie International is provided by Mellon Bank. Additional funding is provided by income from the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust Endowment Fund and by the National Endowment for the Arts, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and The Heinz Endowments.

Highlights:

The Carnegie Prize, awarded for the best work in the exhibition, will be announced on November 5.

Catalogue:

A catalogue of the exhibition will be available at the opening. The publication will include commissioned essays, full-color documentation of the works on view, and biographic and bibliographical material on each artist.

Group Tours:

Groups attending the 1999 Carnegie International can schedule tours of the exhibition, Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center and The Andy Warhol Museum by calling Group Visits at (412) 622-3289.

Admission:

Adults \$6, Senior Citizens \$5, Children and students \$4 and Members free.

Hours:

Carnegie Museum of Art hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Carnegie Museum of Art is closed on Mondays.

The Andy Warhol Museum hours are Wednesday and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Andy Warhol Museum is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

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The 1999 Carnegie International to open November 6, 1999

Pittsburgh, PA, April 28, 1999... The 1999 Carnegie International will open November 6, 1999 at Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, it has been announced by Richard Armstrong, the Henry J. Heinz II director of the museum. As the pre-eminent international survey of contemporary art in North America, the 53rd exhibition in the 103-year-old series will continue the historic legacy set forth by previous Carnegie Internationals presenting the most compelling works of art being created today. The 1999 Carnegie International, being organized by Madeleine Grynsztejn, curator of contemporary art at Carnegie Museum of Art, will run through March 26, 2000.

The Carnegie International, long recognized as the most important international exhibition of contemporary art in North America, has historically provided the world with a visual anthology on the art of the present. Many important works from the most influential movements of this century were first seen in the context of the Carnegie International and were often purchased by the museum, resulting in its unique collection. From the first International the museum acquired Winslow Homer's The Wreck (1896), and James A. McNeill Whistler's Arrangement in Black: Portrait of Señor Pablo de Sarasate (1884), the first Whistler painting to be acquired by an American museum. Over the course of a century, more than 100 works have entered Carnegie Museum of Art's permanent collection through the International series. As a primary arbiter of visual arts, the exhibition has also influenced the collection decisions of other museums and private collections nationally and internationally.

The 1999 Carnegie International differentiates itself in several ways from a growing number of new international survey shows taking place globally. It is the only international exhibition located in an art museum, assembled with no government involvement or fixed rosters of participating artists or countries. The show is organized by a single curator with the active advice of an international committee of art experts. It is also modest in scale relative to some of its newer counterparts; consequently, the 1999 Carnegie International will have a strong artistic focus and thematic cogency.

Madeleine Grynsztejn says, "For over one hundred years, the Carnegie International has presented an aesthetic and intellectually acute statement on the art of our time: a statement that not only reflects upon, but also stands to influence deeply the present and future character of our culture. The International series has always taken risks informed by careful and comprehensive research, and a flexible sensibility that is responsive to newly developing forms of visual expression."

While the thematic overview and names of participating artists will be released later this year, the show will feature work by forty emerging and established artists, the majority of whom have never before exhibited in the Carnegie International. "Traditionally, the International has showcased the most provocative and definitive visual expressions of our time," says Grynsztejn. "The exhibition maps the current activities of artists and the cultures they live in, which is our culture as well. Great works of art give focused attention to the urgent issues and fundamental questions of the present moment. They have their origin in an artist's concentrated experience, a focus that encourages the viewer towards a heightened state of consciousness."

Works presented will encompass a wide range of media, including new pieces created specifically for this exhibition, particularly in response to the museum's singular spaces such as the 1907 Hall of Sculpture and Grand Staircase. An interesting feature of the 1999 Carnegie International will be its emphasis on film and video.

"Ongoing advances in technology have changed us as spectators, allowing us to respond to film and video differently than we did a generation ago," says Grynsztejn. "Today, we see artists using moving imagery as much as still photography, sculpture, or painting," she adds. "Film and video are compelling, because we as a culture are fundamentally prepared to experience them as strong communicating forces."

To enhance the public's understanding and appreciation of the International, the museum's education department is planning a variety of programs and events in conjunction with the show. One project, an initiative sponsored by The Grable Foundation, is being developed to connect students in the region to the influx of creativity from around the world. A teen-focused video is one element in the initiative. To produce the video, the museum has collaborated with an advisory team of students from Pittsburgh's Creative and Performing Arts High School. Footage of Grynsztejn's worldwide travels and interviews with artists will be among the highlights of the video. The video will be available to teachers as a way to make visits to the Carnegie International an exciting and enriching experience. When finalized, a complete listing of educational programs and events for the 1999 Carnegie International will be released.

The 1999 Carnegie International is sponsored by Mellon Bank Corporation.

Major support is provided by income from the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust Endowment Fund, The Grable Foundation, The Heinz

Endowments, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

To date, additional grants have been received from ArtPace and the Trust for Mutual Understanding.

The pre-eminent art museum in the region, Carnegie Museum of Art boasts a distinguished collection of American art from the mid-nineteenth century to the present, French Impressionist and Post-Impressionism paintings, and late-twentieth-century works, including film and video. Other collections of note include European and American decorative arts, and prints and drawings from the late-sixteenth century to the present. The Heinz Architectural Center, opened in 1993, is dedicated to the collection, study, and exhibition of architectural drawings and models.

The Museum of Art also offers many lectures, tours, and programs as well as art history and studio art classes for adults and children. Call 412/622-3288 to receive a guide to programs and classes.

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