

THE BROAD[®]

NEWS

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THE BROAD AND X-TRA BRING TOGETHER ARTISTS, CRITICS AND EDUCATORS TO EXPLORE JOSEPH BEUYS

The Broad's Un-Private Collection Series to Feature Edgar Arceneaux, Simone Leigh, Steven Nelson, Lynne Tillman and Kerry Tribe Examining the Legacy of Joseph Beuys on Contemporary Art and Culture

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The Broad today announced a new three-part iteration of its highly popular *Un-Private Collection* series, which will explore the legacy of German-born artist Joseph Beuys in relation to contemporary art practice. The Broad collection includes more than 500 Beuys multiples—one of the most complete collections of his multiples in the world and an important resource for Los Angeles. In addition to this new series, The Broad will dedicate one of its 2018 Summer Happenings to Beuys and the Fluxus art practice in music and performance. *The Un-Private Collection* series is made possible in part by the generous support of Leading Partner East West Bank.

Widely regarded as a major figure of the German postwar avant-garde, Beuys explored the concepts of humanism, social philosophy and anthroposophy through his diverse body of work, which included traditional media such as drawing, painting and sculpture, to time-based "action" art, installation art and performance art. Beuys viewed art as a vehicle for social change, and throughout his career, he was a vital voice on a wide range of subjects including political, environmental, social and cultural trends.

The Broad has partnered with the quarterly contemporary art journal **X-TRA**, whose mission is to provoke critical dialogue about contemporary art, to curate the series. Each program will highlight a theme central to Beuys, and invites contemporary artists to discuss their work and ideas through that lens.

"Beuys understood that debate and teaching were crucial facets of his art practice, and that artists play a central role in driving public discourse on issues facing society. Inspired by his practice and activism, this new series of *Un-Private Collection* conversations brings together artists, educators and critics to explore their respective creative practices, and to reassess and reframe key themes within Beuys' work for contemporary times," said Ed Patuto, director of audience engagement. "In addition, the series includes a workshop led by Los Angeles artist Edgar Arceneaux that will address the themes of effectivity and social practice aimed at developing better financial models for artists and art professionals working both inside and outside the commercial art market and art institutions. Arceneaux's proposition for organizing artists follows in the footsteps of Beuys' social and political activism."

The Broad is proud to feature artist **Simone Leigh**, a Hugo Boss Prize 2018 nominee and recipient of a 2018 visual arts grant from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts in the first conversation, scheduled for Thursday, February 22. Leigh's diverse practice incorporates

sculpture, video and installation, all informed by her ongoing exploration of black female subjectivity and ethnography. Leigh and art historian **Steven Nelson**, director of UCLA's African Studies Center and professor of African and African-American art history, will question the themes of spiritualism and mysticism associated with Beuys' work. Beuys was often characterized as a shaman. His objects were created from a precise set of materials, such as fat and felt, and were the result of ritualistic "actions" (or performances) and imbued with symbolic meaning and his private mythology. Leigh's work may also appear to have mystical allusions: her research-driven practice draws from folklore and traditional religious practices spanning the Caribbean, Africa, and the American South. **Shana Lutker**, a Los Angeles artist and co-organizer of this series for X-TRA, and independent curator **Diana Nawi** will provide introductions.

Writer **Lynne Tillman**, who is currently professor/writer-in-resident in the department of English at the University at Albany and teaches at the School of Visual Arts' Art Criticism and Writing MFA program, will join Los Angeles visual artist **Kerry Tribe**, whose work in film, video and installation focuses on the mechanics of representation and its metaphoric potential and engagement with reality, for a discussion on lies and myths for the second program of the series on Thursday, May 17. Beuys is a controversial figure in art history, in large part because of his constructed biography: Beuys often recanted his dramatic origin story, a swirl of truth and lies, contributing to his mythic stature. In their work, Tillman and Tribe both investigate the construction of narrative and knowledge. This conversation will explore the ways that Beuys, Tillman and Tribe each raise questions about how identity shapes public reception and perception. The conversation will be moderated by Lutker.

Los Angeles artist **Edgar Arceneaux**, who co-founded the Watts House Project, a nonprofit neighborhood redevelopment organization in Watts, will lead the workshop on effectivity and social practice on Saturday, September 22, with an introduction by **Daniel Spaulding**, a Beuys scholar and art historian.

Tickets to each program are \$15 and will take place in the Oculus Hall at The Broad. Full program details are available at www.thebroad.org/programs.

The Un-Private Collection is The Broad's ongoing series of public programs launched in September 2013. The series introduces audiences to the museum's postwar and contemporary art collection by showcasing stories behind the collection, the collectors and the artists. Since launching the program, The Broad has brought together a variety of artists in conversation with cultural leaders, including Mark Bradford with Katy Siegel, Shirin Neshat with Christy MacLear, Jeff Koons with John Waters, Takashi Murakami with Pico Iyer, Eric Fischl with Steve Martin, John Currin with James Cuno, Kara Walker with Ava DuVernay, and architect Elizabeth Diller with Eli Broad, Joanne Heyler, founding director of The Broad, and Paul Goldberger. Talks have been held at venues throughout Los Angeles, making the programming available to audiences across the city. Conversations are livestreamed and full videos of past talks are available online at <http://bit.ly/Un-PrivateCollection>.

About X-TRA

X-TRA is Los Angeles' longest running contemporary art quarterly journal, celebrating 20 years in print. Collectively edited by a group of artists and writers, X-TRA's mission is to promote and provoke critical dialogue about contemporary art, with a focus on long-form exhibition reviews and features, artist's writing and dynamic public programs. Learn more at X-TRAonline.org.

About Edgar Arceneaux

Edgar Arceneaux lives and works in Los Angeles, where he is an associate professor of art at the Roski School of Art and Design at USC. He was the director of the Watts House Project from 1999-2012. Solo exhibitions of his work have been mounted at the List Museum at MIT, Cambridge; Kunstverein Ulm, Germany; Kunstmuseum Basel; The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; and the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles. He has been included in the Whitney Biennial, the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York and in group exhibitions at Mona Bismarck American Center, Paris; Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; the Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and the Museum Ludwig, Cologne, among others.

About Simone Leigh

Simone Leigh's practice incorporates sculpture, video and installation, all informed by her ongoing exploration of black female subjectivity and ethnography. Her objects often employ materials and forms traditionally associated with African art; her performance-influenced installations create spaces where historical precedent and self-determination commingle. Through her investigations of visual overlaps between cultures, time periods and geographies, she confronts and examines ideas of the female body, race, beauty and community.

In 2016, Leigh received a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, the Herb Alpert Award for Visual Art, and A Blade of Grass Fellowship for Socially Engaged Art. She has also been the recipient of the 2013 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Biennial Award, a 2012 Creative Capital Grant, the 2012 LMCC Michael Richards Award and the 2011 Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant for Sculpture. Recent projects and exhibitions include *Trigger: Gender as a Tool and as a Weapon* (2017) at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; *Psychic Friends Network* (2016) at Tate Exchange, Tate Modern, London; *The Waiting Room* (2016) at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; *The Free People's Medical Clinic* (2014), a project commissioned by Creative Time; *inHarlem*, a public installation presented by The Studio Museum in Harlem at Marcus Garvey Park, New York; and a solo exhibition at the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles. Leigh is a Hugo Boss Prize 2018 nominee. The prize is juried by an international panel of distinguished museum directors, curators and critics, and it is administered by the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation. She was also recently awarded a 2018 visual arts grant by the Foundation for Contemporary Arts.

About Steven Nelson

Steven Nelson is director of the African Studies Center and professor of African and African-American art history at the University of California, Los Angeles. In addition to his award-winning book, *From Cameroon to Paris: Mousgoum Architecture In and Out of Africa* (2007), he has published widely on the arts, architecture and urbanism of Africa and its diasporas, African-American art history and queer studies. He is currently completing two books: *On the Underground Railroad* and *Structural Adjustment: Mapping, Geography and the Visual Cultures of Blackness*.

About Lynne Tillman

Lynne Tillman is a fiction writer and essayist. She has written more than a dozen books over the past 30 years spanning almost every possible genre. Her 2014 collection of essays, *What would Lynne Tillman Do?*, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. In describing Tillman's writing, Colm Toibin says, "Her style has both tone and undertone; it attempts to register the impossibility of saying very much, but it insists on the right to say a little. So what is essential is the voice itself, its ways of knowing and unknowing." Tillman authored the essay on Cindy Sherman for *The Broad Collection* catalogue.

Tillman's new novel, *Men and Apparitions*, will be published by Soft Skull Press in March.

About Kerry Tribe

Kerry Tribe's work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at SFMOMA in San Francisco; 1301 PE and 356 Mission in Los Angeles; the Institute for Modern Art in Brisbane; The Power Plant in Toronto; Modern Art, Oxford and Camden Arts Centre in London, among others. She has received a Creative Capital Grant, a USA Artists Award, and was the 2017 recipient of the Herb Alpert Award in the Arts for Film/Video. Her films have been screened at the International Film Festival Rotterdam; the New York Film Festival and the BFI London Film Festival; among others, and her works are held in collections including The Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Hammer Museum, the Orange County Museum of Art and the Generali Foundation. A fellow at the American Academy in Berlin in 2005-2006, Tribe received her MFA from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2002, and was a Whitney Independent Study Program Fellow in 1997-98. Tribe is represented by 1301PE in Los Angeles, where she currently lives and works.

About The Broad

The Broad is a contemporary art museum founded by philanthropists Eli and Edythe Broad on Grand Avenue in downtown Los Angeles. Designed by Diller Scofidio + Renfro in collaboration with Gensler, the museum offers free general admission. The Broad is home to the 2,000 works of art in the Broad collection, which is among the most prominent holdings of postwar and contemporary art worldwide, and presents an active program of rotating temporary exhibitions and innovative audience engagement. The 120,000-square-foot building features two floors of gallery space and is the headquarters of The Broad Art Foundation's worldwide lending library, which has actively loaned collection works to museums around the world since 1984. Since opening in September 2015, The Broad has welcomed more than 1.7 million visitors.

For more information on The Broad and to sign up for updates, please visit thebroad.org.

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