

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 16, 2021

Media Contacts Darius Sabbaghzadeh | darius@hellothirdeye.com Tyler Mahowald | <u>tyler@hellothirdeye.com</u> Julia Rivera | <u>communications@thebroad.org</u>

THE BROAD ANNOUNCES REOPENING ON MAY 26 WITH NEW EXHIBITIONS

Museum to Reopen with Free Exhibitions Featuring New Acquisitions and Works on View for the First Time, Alongside New Digital Offerings and Visitor Engagement Resources



Los Angeles (April 16, 2021) – The Broad announced plans today to publicly reopen to visitors on May 26 with new, free exhibitions and in-depth installations throughout the museum's galleries. Closed for more than a year, The Broad will soon welcome visitors again with new, single-artist presentations in the skylit third floor galleries and a free, special group exhibition in the first floor galleries. These single artist presentations include **Jean-Michel Basquiat** with all 13 works by the artist in The Broad's collection, three on view for the first time; a mini-survey of Roy Lichtenstein with nearly half the 22 works on view for the first time at the museum; ten artworks by Kara Walker including video, works on paper, and two new acquisitions; and a mini-survey of Andy Warhol that features 26 works including a major new acquisition. The special exhibition *Invisible Sun* in the first floor galleries—developed amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing movement for racial justice and equity—features works in The Broad collection that resonate with our unprecedented period of rupture and collective desire for healing and recovery. The Broad's Leading Partner East West Bank is the exclusive reopening sponsor.

As a way of saying thank you and celebrating health care workers and community organizers who have worked tirelessly to keep Los Angeles safe and have served our local community and nation-at-large, The Broad will provide them with early access to visit the museum during two preview weekends, on May 13-16 and May 20-23. Staff of local institutions and organizations invited will include Keck Medicine of USC as part of their *Care for the Caregiver* program, Chrysalis, Homeboy Industries, Hyde Park Library, LA Public Library Children's Literature Dept, 826LA, A New Way of Life, Extraordinary Families, School on Wheels, Las Fotos Project, among others.

Founding Director Joanne Heyler said, "Experiencing art in person offers unique healing, joy, and insights that we hope can play a meaningful role in collective recovery. We cannot wait to welcome back our community to The Broad's galleries, safely, after the long and unprecedented closure of the past 14 months. The safety of our staff and visitors is our first concern and we have worked diligently to alter our protocols to enhance the experience for all, including greater amenities for a touchless visit. The art our visitors will encounter includes many works exhibited for the first time. This includes a group of extraordinary monograph installations on the museum's third floor, and the first floor exhibition *Invisible Sun*, a poignant meditation on art's ability to address loss while forming a foundation towards healing and understanding."

Travis Kiyota, Senior Vice President of Global Corporate Affairs for East West Bank said, "East West Bank is proud to be the Leading Partner of The Broad and looks forward to celebrating the museum's reopening and continuing to support increasing access to contemporary art for a wide and diverse audience, including students and families. East West Bank is committed to serving the community and helping provide cultural enrichment for our communities and every visitor."

Per state and local guidance, and to provide a safe experience for both visitors and staff, new health and safety protocols will be in place including advance online ticket reservations, reduced visitor capacity (50%) inside the museum, mandatory symptom screening and temperature checks, and the wearing of face coverings. Additional touchless features have been installed such as ticket scanning stations and motion operated restroom facilities. During its initial reopening phase, the museum will be open Wednesday through Friday from 11 am to 5 pm, and on Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm. Tickets for the general public will be released beginning May 12 at 10:00 am. Tickets must be reserved online in advance as onsite and standby tickets will not be available. Due to health and safety protocols, the Yayoi Kusama Infinity Mirror Rooms will remain temporarily closed.

Due to the ongoing capacity restrictions and limitations on in-person programming, The Broad will continue to engage audiences via the museum's social media and digital channels to offer talks, walkthroughs, and in-depth explorations into the museum's collection and program. An added resource for visitors will be a new text chat feature where visitors will be encouraged to ask questions to museum staff through live chat on The Broad's website or via text for a safe, contactless experience. A new, expanded online mobile site will be available with access to all new content. No download is required for access.



Free Exhibitions and Installations

Jean-Michel Basquiat

The Broad will be presenting all 13 Jean-Michel Basquiat works in The Broad collection together for the first time, including three works on view at the museum for the first time: *Santo 2* (1982); *Deaf* (1984); and *Wicker* (1984). Developing a visual language from many artistic traditions—his Puerto Rican and Haitian heritage, his study of art history, and his participation in a vibrant New York graffiti scene— Basquiat's art often reflected on Black experience and history against the backdrop of many of the most pressing issues of the 1980s, including the ongoing aftermath of slavery and colonialism. Furthermore, Basquiat integrated critique of an art world that both celebrated and tokenized him. He saw his own status in this small circle of collectors, dealers, and writers connected to an American history rife with exclusion, invisibility, and paternalism, and he often used his work to directly call out these injustices and hypocrisies.



Roy Lichtenstein

A mini-survey of Roy Lichtenstein will be on view featuring 22 artworks, with nearly half on view at the museum for the first time, including: *Purist Still Life* (1975); *Female Figure* (1979); *Two Paintings: Radiator and Folded Sheets* (1984); and *Reflections: VIP! VIP!* (1989); *Nude with Pyramid* (1994). Lichtenstein drew inspiration from American mass culture, advertisements, the history of art, and, over the course of decades, his innovations came to symbolize art's collision with popular culture. From comic exaggerations of advertising to images of war, cartoon icons to consumer goods, anything and everything printed and distributed in American culture was a potential subject for Lichtenstein's painting. As a key founder of the American Pop Art movement, his subject matter aptly explored the rapid image consumption and visual culture that would come to define modernity.



Kara Walker

The Kara Walker presentation features all ten artworks (six on view for the first time) by the artist in The Broad collection, including two new acquisitions: *Testimony: Narrative of a Negress Burdened by Good Intentions* (2004), the artist's first film, a black-and-white video that tells a tale of slavery in a fictitious past where the antebellum South is occupied by Black enslavers and white captives; and *The White Power 'Gin / Machine to Harvest the Nativist Instinct for Beneficial Uses to Border Crossers Everywhere* (2019), a work on paper including a large triptych and a series of 12 small drawings in which Walker develops a narrative of a laboratory where white bodies are drained of racist thinking; their racism is harvested and repurposed as energy to benefit all oppressed people.

Andy Warhol

A mini-survey of Warhol will be on view featuring 26 works including 11 works on view for the first time at The Broad as well as **a major new acquisition**, *Liz [Early Colored Liz]* (1963), a celebrated work featuring a silkscreened image of Elizabeth Taylor, who represented both celebrity and beauty as well as tragedy for the artist. Beginning his career in the field of commercial art in the late 1940s, Warhol would come to be known for the use of celebrities in his work–such as Taylor, Jackie Kennedy, and Marilyn Monroe–in addition to common household objects. The Broad's Warhol installation will also feature works from the collection: from early drawings from the 1950s to the Death and Disaster series started in 1962 where the artist used found imagery from everyday media, to late works such as the large-scale painting *Camouflage* (1986).



INVISIBLE SUN PRESS PREVIEW VIDEO LINK: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HGC_2teQ6n0

Special Exhibition: Invisible Sun

Developed amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the groundswell of demands for social justice and racial equity, *Invisible Sun* features works that resonate with this unprecedented period of rupture and unrest. The exhibition's title is taken from Julie Mehretu's painting *Invisible Sun (algorithm 8, fable form)*, 2015. While not created in response to these specific events, works on view speak to profound transitions both personal and global, and form an appeal for healing.

Artists included respond to issues such as the AIDS crisis, gender-and race-based violence, unchecked capitalism, and colonialism's aftermath. They collectively grapple with revolution and change, loss, and recovery, and how the freedoms and prosperity of powerful countries come at the expense of others. The exhibition intends to be a site for reflection, education, and dialogue towards confronting current issues and offers space for contemplating a more just world.

Artists featured include **El Anatsui, Alexander Calder, Keith Haring, Jenny Holzer, Julie Mehretu, Nathaniel Mary Quinn, Cindy Sherman**, and many others in the Broad collection. The exhibition offers galleries focusing on the work of a single artist or thematic groupings that reflect larger webs of influence. In total, the show features 59 works in the Broad collection. Twenty-four artworks are on view for the first time at the museum, and 16 have been acquired since the museum opened. On view through October 3, 2021.

Press Preview Days

The Broad will offer advance access for media by appointment on Tuesday, May 11 and Tuesday, May 18. All interested media are asked to request appointments by contacting <u>communications@thebroad.org</u>.

New Digital Offerings and Visitor Engagement

Mobile Museum Guide

Visitors can now go fully contactless during their visit. The new mobile museum guide (coming soon) provides access to all new content, including museum guides and maps in five languages, free audio tours, family activities, artist brochures, and more. No download required for access.

New Live Text Chat

To enhance visitor engagement, The Broad will launch an in-gallery live text chat feature to encourage visitors to ask questions of Broad staff about artwork or anything else about their visit. Curious to know how much the Balloon Dog sculpture weighs? Ask away in a live chat on The Broad's website or via text at 213-232-6280 for a contactless experience.

New Health & Safety Guidelines and Features

- Limited visitor capacity inside the museum (50%)
- Face coverings and temperature checks required for all visitors ages 2 and up and for all staff
- Hand sanitizer stations installed throughout the museum
- Contactless features:
 - New version of The Broad's mobile web app for access to museum guides and maps, free audio tours, new artwork content, family activities, and more—from a mobile device (no download required)
 - o New touchless soap dispensers and automatic door openers in the restrooms
 - New parking system for contactless and pre-paid parking reservations
- Installed UV light sterilizers for our escalator handrails
- Increased cleaning of frequently touched surfaces
- Increased cleaning of our state-of-the-art HVAC system (rated MERV 14) and replacement of air filters to maximize air movement and filtration

A full list of visitor guidelines and frequently asked questions are available at thebroad.org/visit

The Broad From Home

During the museum closure, The Broad remained committed to inspiring and fostering an appreciation of contemporary art through its digital initiative known as #TheBroadFromHome. This suite of digital programming offers inspiration through music, poetry, performance, artmaking workshops, and conversations centered around The Broad collection and available on demand from home, or anywhere. The programming now also serves as informative pre- and post-visit experiences. Explore online at <u>thebroad.org/fromhome</u>

The Shop at The Broad

Inspired by The Broad's renowned postwar and contemporary art collection, The Shop at The Broad will resume onsite operations on May 26. Launched during the museum closure, <u>shop.thebroad.org</u> will

continue to offer onsite pick up for online purchases. Purchases made by phone are also eligible for onsite pickup by calling 213-232-6205.

Hours of Operation

Wednesday through Friday, 11 am to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday 10 am to 5 pm.

Image Credits: The Broad. Photo by Mike Kelley, courtesy of The Broad; Jean-Michel Basquiat; *Obnoxious Liberals*, 1982; *Pink Devil*, 1984; *Deaf*, 1984; *Santo 2*, 1982; *Wicker*, 1984; Installation view at The Broad. © The Estate of Jean-Michel Basquiat. Licensed by Artestar, New York. Photo by Joshua White; *Untitled*, 1981, © The Estate of Jean-Michel Basquiat. Licensed by Artestar, New York. Photo by Douglas M. Parker Studio, Los Angeles; Roy Lichtenstein, *Mirror # 1*, 1969, *Coup de Chapeau II*, 1996, *I...I'm Sorry*, 1965-66; Installation view at The Broad. © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein. Photo by Joshua White; *I...I'm Sorry*, 1965-66; © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein. Photo by Douglas M. Parker Studio, Los Angeles; Kara Walker, *African't*, 1996; Installation view at The Broad. © Kara Walker. Photo by Joshua White; *The White Power 'Gin / Machine to Harvest the Nativist Instinct for Beneficial Uses to Border Crossers Everywhere*, 2019 © Kara Walker; Photo by Joshua White; El Anatsui, *Intermittent Signals*, 2009; Installation view from *Invisible Sun* at The Broad. © El Anatsui. Photo by Joshua White; Julie Mehretu, *Six Bardos: Transmigration*, 2018; Installation view from *Invisible Sun* at The Broad. © Julie Mehretu; Photo by Joshua White.

About The Broad

The Broad is a contemporary art museum founded by philanthropists Eli and Edythe Broad on Grand Avenue in downtown Los Angeles. The museum offers free general admission and presents an active program of rotating temporary exhibitions and innovative audience engagement, all within a landmark building designed by Diller Scofidio + Renfro in collaboration with Gensler. The Broad is home to 2,000 works of art in The Broad collection, which is one of the world's leading collections of postwar and contemporary art and welcomes more than 900,000 visitors a year.

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 been loaning collection works to museums around the world since 1984.

For news and updates, sign up for email newsletters at <u>thebroad.org</u> or follow The Broad on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> or <u>YouTube</u>.

About East West Bank

East West Bancorp, Inc. is a publicly owned company with total assets of over \$52 billion and is traded on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "EWBC". The Company's wholly owned subsidiary, East West Bank, is one of the largest independent banks headquartered in Southern California and one of the top 25 largest banks in the United States. East West is a premier bank focused exclusively on the United States and China markets and operates over 120 locations worldwide. In the United States, East West's presence includes California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Nevada, New York, Texas, and Washington. For more information on East West, visit the Company's website at <u>eastwestbank.com</u>

###