Pérez Art Museum Miami Announces New Acquisitions from Eleven Artists for Permanent Collection

PAMM's Collection Grows with Major Works from Cecilia Vicuña, Teresita Fernández, Barthélémy Toguo, and More

Left: Derek Fordjour. *Worst to Be First*, 2019. Acrylic, charcoal, oil pastel, and foil on newspaper. 81 ½ x 42 ½ inches.

(MIAMI, FL — May 15, 2019) — Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) is pleased to announce a number of significant acquisitions from eleven artists for the museum's permanent collection. Among the new artworks are a hanging installation by Teresita Fernández—gifted by Rosa and Carlos De La Cruz—which will be included in the artist’s upcoming retrospective at PAMM in October 2019, and will be the first large-scale sculptural installation of Fernández's in the museum’s collection; a new painting by Derek Fordjour that depicts an African American tennis player, gifted by Allison and Laurence Berg and Stephanie and Leon Vahn; Barthélémy Toguo’s monumental oil painting that depicts the brutal history of the Rwandan genocide—gifted by Jorge M. Pérez—which furthers the museum’s dedication to African American art; and a monumental installation of unspun wool by Cecilia Vicuña, purchased with funds provided by PAMM's Collectors Council.

The new acquisitions include works by artists Maria Berrio, Carlos Estévez, Teresita Fernández, Derek Fordjour, Abbas Kiarostami, Hun Kyu Kim, Pierre Malphettes, Christina Pettersson, Anastasia Samoylova, Barthélémy Toguo, and Cecilia Vicuña.

“Through the support of our donors and the Collectors Council, we are able to expand PAMM’s collection with the work of these exceptionally talented artists,” said PAMM Director Franklin Sirmans.
These new acquisitions exemplify PAMM’s continued dedication to diversifying its collection, by presenting artwork by historically underrepresented artists, including the U.S. Latino experience, the African diaspora, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Notable works include:

**New works purchased by PAMM’s Collector Council:**
- Cecilia Vicuña’s *Quipu Gut*, 2017, a monumental installation of crimson-dyed, unspun wool, which was shown at documenta 14 in 2017
- Maria Berrio’s patterned watercolor painting on Japanese paper, *Anemochory*, 2019

**Gifts and museum purchases:**
- Cameroonian artist Barthélémy Toguo’s monumental oil painting, *Rwanda 1994*, which depicts the brutal history of the Rwandan genocide and crimes
- Derek Fordjour’s painting *Worst to Be First*, 2019, which refers to the notion of “firsts” as markers of societal achievement
- Sleepers (2001), the rare, first video work by the late Iranian film director Abbas Kiarostami — who was known for his critically acclaimed feature films such as *Close-Up* (1990) and *The Wind Will Carry Us* (1999) — which was presented at the 49th Venice Biennial in 2001
- *Untitled (Crawl Space)*, a major large-scale installation by Teresita Fernández that will be on view in her upcoming exhibition at PAMM, *Teresita Fernández: Elemental*, opening October 18, 2019, and will be the first large-scale sculptural installation of Fernández’s in PAMM’s collection
- Anastasia Samoylova’s *Floodzone* series of photographs, in which the Russian-born, Miami-based artist documented dozens of Florida communities at risk from rising sea levels

**About Pérez Art Museum Miami**
Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) promotes artistic expression and the exchange of ideas, advancing public knowledge and appreciation of art, architecture, and design, and reflecting the diverse community of its pivotal geographic location at the crossroads of the Americas. The 35-year-old South Florida institution, formerly known as Miami Art Museum (MAM) and led by Director Franklin Sirmans, opened a new building, designed by world-renowned architects Herzog & de Meuron, on December 4, 2013 in Downtown Miami’s Museum Park. The facility is a state-of-the-art model for sustainable museum design and progressive programming and features 200,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor program space with flexible galleries; shaded outdoor verandas; a waterfront restaurant and bar; a museum shop; and an education center with a library, media lab, and classroom spaces.

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