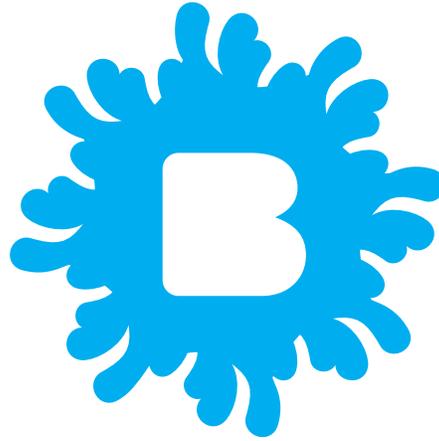


Press Release



January 2015

Key Works Acquired During Tenure of Retiring Brooklyn Museum Director Arnold L. Lehman on View April 15 through August 2, 2015

A selection of 100 works from the nearly 10,000 acquired during the tenure of the Shelby White and Leon Levy Director of the Brooklyn Museum, Arnold Lehman, will be presented in his honor on the occasion of his retirement in the summer of 2015. *Diverse Works: Director's Choice, 1997–2015*, on view from April 15 through August 2, 2015, includes works in a wide range of media from every corner of the globe. Spanning many centuries, the exhibition brings together important objects from all of the Museum's collecting areas.

The selections range from an ancient Chinese mythical carved figure (5th–3rd century B.C.E.) to contemporary works by Kiki Smith and Chuck Close, and a mixed-media collage (2013) in a customized frame from the American artist Rashaad Newsome. The installation highlights the scope of the Museum's collecting accomplishments, underscoring the commitment to diversity that makes the Museum's collections exciting and unique, and thereby honoring the vision of retiring director Lehman.

Highlights from *Diverse Works* include Kara Walker's *Keys to the Coop* (1997), a linocut that depicts an African American woman in bold silhouette, holding the severed head of a chicken; the permanent installation in the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art of Judy Chicago's iconic work, *The Dinner Party* (1974–79), which represents 1,038 historical women through ceramic, porcelain, and textile; and *Go* (2003), a large-scale ceiling painting by Kehinde Wiley. Also included are a silver Song dynasty reliquary (986) inscribed by the artist Li Lingxun; the biomorphic *Spacelander* bicycle (1960), believed to be one of only five hundred ever sold, making it one of the rarest and most sought-after industrial designs of the mid-twentieth century; an ancient Egyptian *Relief of Mourning Women* (1319–1204 B.C.E.); and Pablo Picasso's *Woman in Gray* (1942), one of several paintings he created in quick succession in Paris during World War II that evoke the bleakness of life in the German-occupied French capital.

Exhibited as well is a sculpture from the *Tuskegee Airmen Series* (1997) by the artist Michael Richards, who died while working at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001; a mask (circa 1977) depicting Elvis Presley by an unidentified Chewa artist belonging to the Nyau society, where masks of iconic foreigners have been considered to represent antisocial and undesirable values; and the critically

Brooklyn Museum

200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238-6052

T (718) 638-5000 F (718) 501-6134

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acclaimed photographer and documentary filmmaker Timothy Greenfield-Sanders's inkjet print image of the choreographer Bill T. Jones (2007), which was featured in the Museum's exhibition *The Black List Project* (2008).

Diverse Works: Director's Choice, 1997–2015 is organized by the curators of the Brooklyn Museum in honor of Arnold Lehman. The exhibition is made possible by the Martha A. and Robert S. Rubin Exhibition Fund and the Norman and Arline Feinberg Exhibition Fund.

Press Contact:

Sally Williams, Public Information Officer, (718) 501-6330, sally.williams@brooklynmuseum.org

Fatima Kafele, Media Relations Manager, (718) 501-6331, fatima.kafele@brooklynmuseum.org

Emily Liebowitz, Public Information Associate, (718) 501-6354, emily.liebowitz@brooklynmuseum.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission:

Contribution \$16; students with valid I.D. and seniors \$10. Ages 19 and under FREE. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B41, B69, B48. On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; first Saturday of each month (except September), 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Closed Monday, Tuesday, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.