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GUERRILLA GIRLS TWIN CITIES TAKEOVER WILL LAUNCH WITH KICKOFF EVENTS JANUARY 21-22



Photo by Gene Pittman, courtesy Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, December 15 2015—The Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover will launch **January 21-22, 2016** with Kickoff events hosted by the **Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minnesota Museum of American Art, Rochester Art Center, and Walker Art Center.**

From January through March 2016, the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover will include over thirty arts and cultural organizations in Minneapolis/St. Paul and surrounding cities in celebration of the Guerrilla Girls' 30th anniversary as an activist art collective. From small non-profit art centers to major cultural institutions in the region, these partners will be highlighting gender and race inequalities, taking on stereotypes and hypocrisies, and promoting artistic expression by the often overlooked and underrepresented. Over this eight week period over fifty exhibitions, discussions, performances and special events will take place.

The project will culminate with the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover Week from **February 29 – March 6, 2016** with the unveiling of commissioned *Made Here* storefronts and public discussions and events with the Guerrilla Girls at the **Weisman Art Museum** on March 2, and at **Hennepin Theatre Trust's State Theatre** on March 5, with tickets on sale January 21. Related exhibitions and events during the Takeover Week will take place at **Artistry, Bryant Lake Bowl, Highpoint Center for Printmaking, Minneapolis Central Library, Instinct Gallery, Intermedia Arts, and Soo Visual Arts Center**, among many other



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participating organizations. For complete information on the project, tickets and satellite site programming, please visit ggtakeover.com.

GUERRILLA GIRLS TWIN CITIES TAKEOVER KICKOFF

January 21-22, 2016

The **Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover Kickoff** includes free exhibition openings and youth-oriented events at the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minnesota Museum of American Art, Rochester Art Center, and Walker Art Center. The Minneapolis Institute of Art will unveil a *ReMix* organized by the Guerrilla Girls; the Minneapolis College of Art and Design will open an exhibition of student work created in response to the Guerrilla Girls and *Stepping Back, Looking Forward: Honoring Feminist Vision*, a group exhibition organized by the Minnesota Chapter of the Women's Caucus for Art; the Minnesota Museum of American Art will open the exhibition *Material Mythologies* featuring the work of five American female artists from around the country; the Rochester Art Center will open the exhibitions *Amanda Curreri: The Calmest of Us Would Be Lunatics* and *Charles Philippe Jean Pierre: The Feminist* followed by a panel with the Guerrilla Girls; and the Walker Art Center will unveil an installation of the Guerrilla Girls' recently acquired poster archive in the exhibition *Art at the Center: 75 Years of Walker Collections*.

Minneapolis College of Art and Design

January 21, 6 – 8 pm

Exhibition openings

Minnesota Mean: The Students Take Measure

Stepping Back, Looking Forward: Honoring Feminist Vision

Minneapolis Institute of Art

January 21, 6 – 9 pm

Installation opening

ReMix: Guerrilla Girls@Mia

Third Thursday: Art of Rebellion



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Minnesota Museum of American Art

January 21, 5:30 – 8:30 pm

Exhibition opening

Material Mythologies

Member Reception, 5:30 – 7 pm

Public Reception, 7 – 8:30 pm

Rochester Art Center

January 22, 5:30 – 9:00 pm

Exhibition openings

Amanda Curreri: *The Calmest of Us Would Be Lunatics*

Charles Philippe Jean Pierre: *The Feminist*

VIP preview, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Opening Reception, 6:30 – 9 pm

Art as Social Activism: An Intergenerational Conversation with the Guerrilla Girls, Amanda Curreri, and

Charles Philippe Jean Pierre, 7:30 pm

Walker Art Center

January 21, 5 – 9 pm

Installation opening

Art at the Center: Guerrilla Girls

Target Free Thursday Night





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ABOUT THE GUERRILLA GIRLS

Formed in 1985, the Guerrilla Girls are a group of anonymous female artists who produce posters, stickers, books, printed projects, and actions that expose sexism and racism in politics, the art world, and the culture at large. The group's members protect their individual identities by wearing gorilla masks during public appearances, and by adopting the names of deceased famous female figures such as Edmondia Lewis, Zubeida Agha, and Frida Kahlo. Because of their anonymity, it is never clear exactly how many members comprise the group, but they have always remained a fairly small collective.

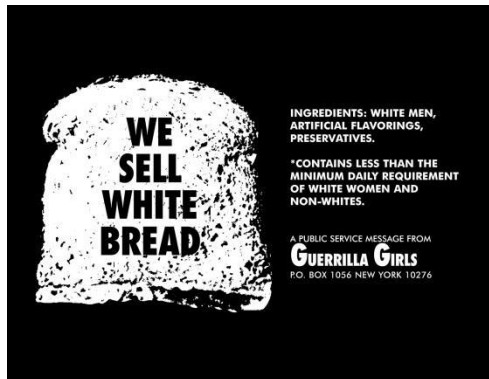
A catalyst for the group's formation was the 1984 Museum of Modern Art, New York (MoMA) exhibition *International Survey of Painting and Sculpture*, which included the work of 169 artists with less than 10% women artists and even fewer artists of color. The Guerrilla Girls dubbed themselves the "conscience of the art world," and in 1985 they began a poster campaign that targeted museums, dealers, curators, critics, and artists whom they felt were responsible for the exclusion of women and artists of color from mainstream exhibitions.

Like the artists Barbara Kruger and Jenny Holzer, the Guerrilla Girls appropriated the visual language of advertising to convey their messages in a quick and accessible manner. Their designs combined bold block text with lists and statistics compiled from art magazines and museum reports. The Guerrilla Girls use humor to convey information, provoke discussion, and show that feminists can be funny, and they also wear gorilla masks to this end. They embrace a populist approach to art production and exchange, making many small exchanges of books, posters, talks, and workshops with many individuals, producing their artwork in quantity to reach a broad audience.

The Guerrilla Girls have exhibited widely across the world. In 2005 they created a large-scale installation for the Venice Biennale, and they have been the focus of two major recent exhibitions: one in Chicago in 2012, and another at the Guggenheim in Bilbao the following year. Their work is held in the collections of several institutions that they have critiqued over the years, including MoMA and the Walker Art Center, in addition to the Tate, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Brooklyn Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Getty Institute.



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THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A WOMAN ARTIST:

Working without the pressure of success
 Not having to be in shows with men
 Having an escape from the art world in your 4 free-lance jobs
 Knowing your career might pick up after you're eighty
 Being reassured that whatever kind of art you make it will be labeled feminine
 Not being stuck in a tenured teaching position
 Seeing your ideas live on in the work of others
 Having the opportunity to choose between career and motherhood
 Not having to choke on those big cigars or paint in Italian suits
 Having more time to work when your mate dumps you for someone younger
 Being included in revised versions of art history
 Not having to undergo the embarrassment of being called a genius
 Getting your picture in the art magazines wearing a gorilla suit

A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE FROM **GUERRILLA GIRLS** COINCIDENCE OF THE ART WORLD

MEDIA CONTACTS - KICKOFF EVENTS

Minneapolis College of Art and Design

Kerry Morgan

kmorgan@mcad.edu, 612-874-3667

Ann Benrud

abenrud@mcad.edu, 612-874-3793

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Anne-Marie Wagener

awagener@artsmia.org, 612-870-3280

Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul

Jessari Sutton

jsutton@mmaa.org, 651-797-4057

Christopher Atkins

catkins@mmaa.org, 651-797-2859



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Rochester Art Center
Megan Johnston
mjohnston@rochesterartcenter.org, 507-424-3307
Susannah Magers
smagers@rochesterartcenter.org, 507-424-3302

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
Meredith Kessler
meredith.kessler@walkerart.org, 612-375-7651

GUERRILLA GIRLS TWIN CITIES TAKEOVER

Organizing Partners: Hennepin Theatre Trust, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis Institute of Art, St. Catherine University Department of Art and Art History, Walker Art Center, and Weisman Art Museum.

Youth Engagement Partners: Courageous heARTS, Juxtaposition Arts, Kulture Klub Collaborative, Little Earth, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Walker Art Center.

Satellite Sites: Altered Esthetics, 801 Washington Lofts, Artistry, Bryant Lake Bowl, Carleton College, Christensen Gallery at Augsburg College, Concordia University Gallery, Gamut Gallery, Highpoint Center for Printmaking, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Instinct Gallery, Intermedia Arts, Kolman & Pryor Gallery, Minneapolis Central Library, Minnesota Museum of American Art, Public Functionary, Rochester Art Center, Soo Visual Arts Center, St. Olaf College, Third Place Gallery, Traffic Zone Gallery, Vine Arts Center, Waiting Room, and Women's Art Resources of Minnesota.