

WHITNEY

Whitney Museum
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PRESS RELEASE



Leslie Thornton and James Richards, still from *Crossing*, 2016. High-definition video, color, sound; 19:10 min. Courtesy the artists

A BROAD RANGE OF MOVING IMAGE ARTISTS TO BE SHOWN IN THE 2017 BIENNIAL'S FILM PROGRAM

NEW YORK, February 3, 2017— A series of film screenings and conversations will be presented as part of the 2017 Whitney Biennial, opening at the Whitney Museum of American Art on March 17. The series takes place over ten consecutive weekends, from March 17 through May 21, 2017, in the Susan and John Hess Family Theater on the Museum's third floor. Each Sunday, the 3pm screening will be followed by a conversation with the filmmakers, joined by writers, curators, and scholars.

Film program co-curator and Biennial advisor Aily Nash notes: "At once radical and quiet, global and intimate, the works presented in the 2017 Whitney Biennial film program continue to reflect on the urgent themes seen in the exhibition. These artists are some of the most exciting voices working in moving image today. They engage the medium with formal rigor and innovation, while exploring the subjective and affective experiences of the contemporary political and social moment. The broad range of artists span generations and approaches to the moving image including documentary practice, experimental film, narrative cinema, and video installation."

Featured artists are Basma Alsharif, Eric Baudelaire, Robert Beavers, Mary Helena Clark, Kevin Jerome Everson, Sky Hopinka, Dani Leventhal, Beatriz Santiago Muñoz, Cauleen Smith, Leslie Thornton and James Richards, Leilah Weinraub, and James N. Kienitz Wilkins.

See complete schedule [here](#).

The 2017 Whitney Biennial is co-curated by Christopher Y. Lew and Mia Locks.

The film program is organized by Christopher Y. Lew, Mia Locks, and Aily Nash. [Read more](#) about the 2017 Biennial curators and advisors.

About the 2017 Whitney Biennial

The formation of self and the individual's place in a turbulent society are among the key themes reflected in the work of the artists selected for the 2017 Whitney Biennial. The exhibition includes sixty-three participants, ranging from emerging to well-established individuals and collectives working in painting, sculpture, drawing, installation, film and video, photography, activism, performance, music, and video game design.

With a history of exhibiting the most promising and influential artists and provoking debate, the Whitney Biennial—the Museum's signature exhibition— is the longest running survey of contemporary art in the United States. The Biennial, an invitational show of work produced in the preceding two years, was introduced by Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney in 1932, and it is the longest continuous series of exhibitions in the country to survey recent developments in American art.

The 2017 Whitney Biennial will be accompanied by an exhibition catalogue, designed by Olga Casellas Badillo of San Juan-based Tiguer Corp., which includes essays by the curators as well as Biennial advisors Negar Azimi and Gean Moreno, a conversation between the curators and Scott Rothkopf, and a roundtable with filmmakers moderated by Aily Nash. The book will also feature individual entries on each of the sixty-three participants in the exhibition along with reproductions of their work. It will be published by the Whitney Museum of American Art and distributed by Yale University Press.

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Generous support is provided by 2017 Biennial Committee Co-Chairs: Leslie Bluhm, Beth Rudin DeWoody, Bob Gersh, and Miyoung Lee; 2017 Biennial Committee members: Ashley Leeds and Christopher Harland, Diane and Adam E. Max, Teresa Tsai, Suzanne and Bob Cochran, Rebecca and Martin Eisenberg, Amanda and Glenn Fuhrman, Barbara and Michael Gamson, Kourosh Larizadeh and Luis Pardo, Iris Z. Marden, Tracy and Gary Mezzatesta, and Jackson Tang; the Henry Peterson Foundation; and anonymous donors.

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Funding is also provided by special Biennial endowments created by Melva Bucksbaum, Emily Fisher Landau, Leonard A. Lauder, and Fern and Lenard Tessler.

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New York magazine is the exclusive media sponsor of Whitney Biennial 2017.

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists at a time when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for more than eighty years. The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists themselves, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art

<i>Dreamlands: Immersive Cinema and Art, 1905–2016</i>	Through Feb 5, 2017
<i>Virginia Overton: Winter Garden</i>	Through Feb 5, 2017
<i>Human Interest: Portraits from the Whitney's Collection</i>	Through Feb 12, 2017
<i>RED IN VIEW</i>	Through Feb 27, 2017
<i>Fast Forward: Painting from the 1980s</i>	Through May 14, 2017
<i>Whitney Biennial</i>	March 17–June 11, 2017
<i>Calder: Hypermobility</i>	June 9–October 16, 2017
<i>Hèlio Oiticica: To Organize Delirium</i>	July 14–October 1, 2017
<i>Jimmie Durham: At the Center of the World</i>	November 3, 2017–January 28, 2018
<i>Laura Owens</i>	November 2017–February 2018
<i>David Wojnarowicz: History Keeps Me Awake at Night</i>	Summer 2018

The Whitney Museum is located at 99 Gansevoort Street between Washington and West Streets, New York City. Museum hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday from 10:30 am to 6 pm, Friday and Saturday from 10:30 am to 10 pm, closed Tuesday. Adult tickets: \$22; full-time students and visitors 65 & over: \$18; visitors 18 and under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 7–10 pm. Same-day adult admission tickets are \$25; advance tickets purchased via whitney.org remain \$22 for adults and \$17 for full-time students and visitors 65 & over (same-day tickets are not available on whitney.org). For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit whitney.org.

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