



Miami Art Museum

Miami Art Museum Will Unveil Shepard Fairey's *Arab Woman*, 2006/2009 During Art Basel Miami Beach

Other Highlights of Miami Art Museum's Diverse Art Basel Calendar Include Major Guillermo Kuitca Retrospective, Site-Specific Installations, and More



Shepard Fairey, *Arab Woman Canvas*, 2006/2009

MIAMI – October 15, 2009 — Miami Art Museum will unveil an outdoor public art project by artist Shepard Fairey during Art Basel Miami Beach, 2009. Visible from the Miami-Dade Cultural Center Plaza, Fairey will install a new variation of *Arab Woman*, 2006 on an exterior wall of the museum, 101 West Flagler Street, Miami, FL, 33130. The project, entitled ***Arab Woman, 2006/2009***, will be unveiled on Thursday, December 3, during Miami Art Museum's highly-anticipated Party on the Plaza and will remain on view through Sunday, December 6. Produced in conjunction with Country Club gallery, the project coincides with a new installation entitled ***The Public Works*** at The Fountainhead Residency, 690 NE 56th Street, Miami FL, 33137.

"Fairey's images convey a sense of urgency about various political struggles and summon the ideological associations and positions of each individual viewer," said René Morales, Miami Art Museum associate curator. "The confrontational gaze of *Arab Woman* spans the divide between the West and the Middle East, merging Islamic motifs with the influence of artists like Andy Warhol and Barbara Kruger."

Shepard Fairey is one of the most visible and celebrated street artists of his generation. Fairey first gained notoriety by translating pop culture imagery into guerilla propaganda campaigns that quickly became global phenomena, most prominently with his ubiquitous "OBEY" images. Fairey's recent work consists of complex, multi-layered portraits of counter-cultural revolutionary figures combined with politically-charged propaganda style imagery.

Fairey's image of Barack Obama propelled him toward widespread international acclaim when the stylized portrait of the presidential candidate, emblazoned with the word "HOPE," became the most recognizable image of the 2008 elections. A major survey exhibition of his work, entitled *Shepard Fairey: Supply and Demand*, was organized at the ICA Boston in early 2009 and traveled to Cincinnati's Contemporary Arts Center. Fairey's work is included in the permanent collections of the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, Washington DC; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Museum of Modern Art, New York; and Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

Miami Art Museum's 2009 Art Basel Miami Beach Season:

Miami Art Museum's 2009 Art Basel Miami Beach season includes major exhibitions, events and lectures. The most comprehensive survey of Guillermo Kuitca's work ever presented in North America, ***Guillermo Kuitca: Everything, Paintings and Works on Paper, 1980 – 2008*** is on view at Miami Art Museum from October 9, 2009 through January 17, 2010. The exhibition traces the evolution of Kuitca's work through more than 50 canvases and 25 works on paper, spanning 28 years of the artist's career. A satellite installation, ***Guillermo Kuitca: Everything (else), Large Scale Works at Freedom Tower***, includes two magnificent, large-scale paintings, each more than 20 feet long. *Guillermo Kuitca: Everything, Paintings and Works on Paper, 1980-2008* is co-organized by Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; and Miami Art Museum. Additional support for the presentation of this exhibition at Miami Art Museum is provided by Jorge M. Pérez and Bank Hapoalim. *Guillermo Kuitca: Everything (else), Large Scale Works at Freedom Tower* is presented in association with Miami Dade College.

Space as Medium (November 20, 2009 through February 28, 2010), a group exhibition of works that directly engage the physical space amid which they are installed, mixes extant objects with newly commissioned projects, and includes works by William Anastasi, Lynda Benglis, Tom Burr, Katharina Grosse, Wade Guyton, Nicolas Lobo, Rachel Whiteread and more. The exhibition is organized by Miami Art Museum and funded by MAM's Annual Exhibition Fund. Additional support for this exhibition has been provided by Viceroy Miami Hotels Resorts and Residences.

A third exhibition, ***Carlos Bunga: Metamorphosis*** (November 20, 2009 through February 28, 2010) presents two of the Portuguese artist's large-scale, site-specific installations involving notions of history and memory as embodied in the constructive and deconstructive nature of architecture. The exhibition is organized by Miami Art Museum and funded by Instituto Camões, Espírito Santo Bank, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, and Directorate-General for the Arts / Ministry of Culture, Portugal, with additional support provided by UBS Financial Services, Inc. - The Bodner Zubizarreta Group and MAM's Annual Exhibition Fund.

A panel of modern and contemporary art museum directors from Europe, North America and Latin America will discuss strategies for addressing the needs of audiences on Tuesday, December 1, from 2-4:30pm. ***Changing Dynamics for Audiences and Museums in the 21st Century***, taking place at Miami Art Museum, is \$5 for MAM members and \$10 for non-members.

Miami Art Museum's signature Art Basel event, ***Party on the Plaza***, by invitation only, takes place Thursday, December 3, from 8-11pm. Approximately 1,700 of Art Basel Miami Beach exhibitors' pass, VIP card and special VIP card holders, as well as contributing (\$250) and above MAM members and MAM Contemporaries, will celebrate the unveiling of Fairey's outdoor project while enjoying live music, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres under the stars at Miami Art Museum's Cultural Center Plaza.

The **MAM Ball**, Miami Art Museum's main annual fundraising event, will celebrate the new Miami Art Museum in Museum Park. The gala takes place Saturday, December 5, from 7pm–midnight at the Fontainebleau Miami Beach. The MAM Ball is considered one of the top national museum fundraisers and is anticipated as one of the major events on Miami's social calendar. For tickets, table reservations or information contact 305.375.5935 or events@miamiartmuseum.org.

Also at Miami Art Museum, the **Parodi Lecture in Philosophy of Art, "Diagrammatic Spaces,"** by John Rajchman, associate professor and director of MA Programs, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University, takes place Sunday, December 6, at 11am. The three exhibitions currently on view at Miami Art Museum – *Guillermo Kuitca: Everything, Paintings and Works on Paper, 1980 – 2008*, and *Carlos Bunga: Metamorphosis and Space as Medium* – share a common concern with space. Whether artists make paintings, photographs or installations, they often sense that they are dealing with 'space' rather than 'image'. Rajchman will look at two different sources of this issue: The attempt to substitute a map or diagram for the proverbial 'window' as a principle of pictorial intelligibility, and the attempt to free ourselves from the display of distinct objects in favor of another conception, function and history of exhibition. Refreshments will be served following the lecture, which is free to the public.

Miami Art Museum is located at 101 West Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33130. Museum hours are: Tuesday through Friday, 10am - 5pm; Saturday through Sunday, Noon - 5pm; and third Thursdays (JAM@MAM), 5-8:30pm. MAM is closed on Mondays. Admission is free for MAM members, children under 12 and students (with valid ID); adults \$8; seniors \$4; JAM@MAM \$10 (non-members), and Second Saturdays are Free for Families. Parking is \$5 (with museum validation) at 50 NW 2nd Ave. Overflow parking is available at 270 NW 2nd Street. Miami Art Museum is accessible via Metrorail, Metrobus and Metromover through Government Center Station. For more information about Miami Art Museum, please call 305.375.3000 or visit miamiartmuseum.org.

Miami Art Museum

Miami Art Museum serves one of the most diverse and fast-growing regions of the country, where a confluence of North and Latin American cultures adds vibrancy and texture to the civic landscape. Miami Art Museum embraces its role as a cultural anchor and touchstone in a city that welcomes countless ethnic and age groups, lifestyles and ideas. Miami Art Museum's far-ranging vision is expressed in the breadth and depth of its exhibition program, and education and public programs. The Museum continues to build its collection of holdings from the twentieth century through the present, as it embarks on a major new building and expansion project. The new Miami Art Museum at Museum Park, designed by Herzog & de Meuron, is scheduled for completion in 2012.

Miami Art Museum is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts; with the support of Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners. Miami Art Museum is an accessible facility. For sign language interpretation or assistive listening devices please call Miami Art Museum's education department 305.375.4073 at least five days in advance. Materials in accessible format may be requested.

Media Contact:

Tracy Belcher/ 305.375.1705/ TBelcher@miamiartmuseum.org

Heather Steliga/ 305.375.1706/ HSteliga@miamiartmuseum.org

###

101509