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MUSEUM

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NEW MUSEUM ELECTS NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES, JOINING FOUR OTHER BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED OVER THE PAST YEAR



New York, NY... Lisa Phillips, *Toby Devan Lewis Director* of the New Museum, and James Keith Brown, President, announced today the appointment of four new members elected to the New Museum's Board of Trustees: **Patricia Blanchet**, **Fusun Eczacıbaşı**, **Tommie Pegues**, and **Jamie Singer**. They join four other new members who became trustees over the past year including **Evan Chow**, **Randi Levine**, **Matt Mullenweg**, and **Marcus Weldon**.

"We are thrilled that these outstanding individuals committed to our mission are joining the New Museum Board," said New Museum Board President, JK Brown. "Their diverse backgrounds across generations and geographies will bring new perspectives to the Museum for the future ahead at an important time of change," said Lisa Phillips, *Toby Devan Lewis Director*.

Patricia Blanchet has a long history of engagement with black arts and culture, as a maker, administrator, and patron, particularly of the visual arts, dance, theater, film, music, and photography. A longstanding collector of African American art, she currently serves on the

Acquisition Committee of the Studio Museum in Harlem, and on the boards of the Newport Festivals Foundation and the NY African Film Festival. Previously she was the Program Director at NYU's Institute of African American Affairs as well as the Director of Development at the Museum for African Art when it was the neighbor of the New Museum on Broadway. Blanchet currently heads the Ed Bradley Family Foundation, founded in honor of her late husband, iconic journalist Ed Bradley. The Foundation supported, among other things, exhibitions by John Akomfrah and Nari Ward at the New Museum.

An architect by training, **Fusun Eczacıbaşı** is a leading cultural philanthropist in Istanbul with her husband Faruk Eczacıbaşı. She is the co-founder and chairman of the SAHA Association for the Arts. Eczacıbaşı has been actively involved in many NGOs focused on human rights, minority rights, nature preservation, and education. She is a member of the Tate International Council and the New Museum's International Leadership Council.

Tommie L. Pegues is the founder of Metropolis Risk Management LCC and Insuri.com. He is a Commissioner at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington D.C., where he was among the primary sponsors of the exhibition "Hide/Seek," and where he was a significant benefactor to the Obama portraits by Kehinde Wiley and Amy Sherald. With his spouse Donald A. Capoccia, Pegues has supported the New Museum as a member of the Producers Council and Friends of the Triennial.

Jamie Singer is the CEO and Co-founder of Ussie, a private visual messaging app that helps strengthen relationships and build communities while protecting consumer privacy. She is a start-up veteran who has focused primarily on mobile applications and digital advertising technologies. She is a Founding Member of The Wing and currently serves on the Board of Advisors for the One Love Foundation and NEW INC, the New Museum's cultural incubator.

The Managing Partner of MCL Financial Group and the Managing Director of Chow Enterprise Group, Hong Kong-based **Evan Chow** is actively involved with a number of non-profit organizations, including Executive Committee at the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children, Young Presidents' Organization, and the Centum Charitas Foundation. An active patron of contemporary art, Chow is also a member of the New Museum's International Leadership Council and the Asia Pacific Committee for Center Pompidou.

Randi Levine joined the New Museum's Artemis Council in 2016, a dedicated group of patrons who directly support exhibitions, new commissions, and residencies by women artists at the New Museum. Since that time, she and her husband Jeffrey Levine have been active New Museum members. She is a Commissioner at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, a member of the Friends of the Costume Institute at the Met, as well as a noted fundraiser for NYU Hospital and the Democratic Party.

Matt Mullenweg is co-founder of the open-source publishing platform WordPress, which now powers over one-third of all sites on the web. He is the founder and CEO of Automattic, the company behind WordPress.com, WooCommerce, and Tumblr. Additionally, Mullenweg runs Audrey Capital, an investment and research company. He has been recognized for his leadership by *Forbes*, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *Inc.*, *TechCrunch*, *Fortune*, *Fast Company*, *Wired*, *University Philosophical Society*, and *Vanity Fair*. Mullenweg is originally from Houston, Texas, where he attended the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and studied jazz saxophone. In his spare time, Mullenweg is an avid photographer. He currently splits his time between Houston, New York, and San Francisco.

Marcus Weldon is the President of Nokia Bell Labs. Considered one of the luminaries in the industry, Weldon has championed many technological disruptions in telecommunications networks. Born in the UK, he holds a BS in chemistry and computer science from King's College, London, and a PhD in physical chemistry from Harvard University. In 1995 he joined AT&T Bell Labs, before becoming President in 2013. He is on the Board of Trustees of the Liberty Science Center in New Jersey and has supported partnerships with and served on the Advisory Council of NEW INC, the New Museum's cultural incubator.

ABOUT NEW MUSEUM

The New Museum is the only museum in New York City exclusively devoted to contemporary art. Founded in 1977, the New Museum is a center for exhibitions, information, and documentation about living artists from around the world. From its beginnings as a one-room office on Hudson Street to the inauguration of its first freestanding building on the Bowery designed by SANAA in 2007, the New Museum continues to be a place of experimentation and a hub of new art and new ideas.