



Pérez Art Museum Miami
1103 Biscayne Blvd.
Miami, FL 33132
305 375 3000
pamm.org



Pérez Art Museum Miami Receives \$200,000 Matching Grant from Knight Foundation for PAMM Fund for African American Art

Match Announced at the Fourth Annual Reception

MIAMI – February 22, 2017 – Last night at Pérez Art Museum Miami’s **Fourth Annual Reception for the PAMM Fund for African American Art**, **Alberto Iburgüen**, President and CEO of the **John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**, announced a \$200,000 matching grant to benefit the fund. This matching grant, active through August 21, 2017, will help encourage more supporters to come forward and enable PAMM to acquire world-class works by African American artists for generations to come.

“We offer this funding as a challenge to the community, to join us in building a collection of great art by African American artists that will inspire and connect us to one another and to Miami,” said Alberto Iburgüen, president of Knight Foundation.

In the spirit of the Knight Foundation’s generosity, PAMM was honored to announce that fund ambassador member and trustee Dorothy A. Terrell personally donated \$100,000 towards the match. Her donation, and the contributions of guests who were asked to support the fund as members on site that evening, will help shape the collecting of the institution and support the fund’s inclusive nature.

PAMM Director Franklin Sirmans also announced the fund’s newest acquisitions, including major works by artists **Kevin Beasley**, **Theaster Gates**, **Sam Gilliam**, **Martine Syms**, and **Juana Valdes**, including donations by patrons Toni and Carl Randolph and Debi and Larry Hoffman, to an overflowing auditorium of more than 700 guests.

“We are proud to be a museum with a collection that is reflective of our diverse Miami community,” said Sirmans. “We are grateful that Alberto and Jorge’s instinct and insight created this exceptional opportunity for PAMM and the community, and now it’s up to us all to help this effort grow and flourish for generations to come.”

- **Kevin Beasley**, *Untitled (parade)*, 2016: An acquisition through the Fund, this work combines found materials, clothing, and synthetic mixtures to create sculptures that reference Western art history, hip-hop culture, and urban life. Drawn from the inspiration of hip-hop culture and the history of drapery in Western painting, Beasley creates a mixture that imbues this striking sculpture with a feeling of both mournfulness and liveliness.
- **Martine Syms**, *The Mundane Afrofuturist Manifesto*, 2007–15: An acquisition through the Fund, this wall-based text work publically critiques the literary and cultural aesthetic of Afrofuturism. In this hand-painted work, Syms calls for the “mundane Afrofuturist” to generate new possibilities for the black imagination that can radically rethink the future—beyond aliens, extraterrestrials, and space travel. This is the second work of Syms to enter the collection.
- **Juana Valdes**, *An Inherent View of the World*, 2014 and *A Single Drawn Line*, 2014: An acquisition through the Fund, Valdes, Miami-raised, combines photography and installation to investigate the history of commodities, reconsidering their connections to trade and consumerism.
- **Theaster Gates**, *Breathing*, 2010: Gifted to the Fund by Debi and Larry Hoffman, this piece shows four singers in close-up, who flow from Buddhist chants into African American gospel.





Alluding to the history of black spirituals, *Breathing* transcends geographical boundaries to create a communal experience in which viewers can appreciate together—a mesmerizing performance that generates a bond between people.

- **Sam Gilliam**, *Blue and Flame*, 2001: Gifted to the Fund by Toni and Carl Randolph, this relief work explores physicality, resonance, and depth of color in painting, introducing a sculptural third dimension to the medium while also engaging the surrounding architecture. Gilliam's revolutionary idea that modernist painting could be sculptural and, moreover, theatrical, radically distinguished him from his contemporaries.

The artworks represent a variety of artistic practices, ranging from sculpture and painting to photography and film. They explore a range of subjects relating to art and materiality, history, and the African diaspora, thereby adding important voices to the conversation in PAMM's permanent collection.

The lively event also featured special performances by **Olujimi Dance Theater**, *Kahina: A Tangled Roof*, and a poetry reading by **Aja Monet**. Notable guests included Knight Foundation VP/Arts Victoria Rogers and Director of Arts Bahia Ramos; Miami-Dade County Commissioner Audrey Edmonson; City of Miami Commissioners Frank Carollo and Keon Hardemon; Miami Beach Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez; City of Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver G. Gilbert III; North Bay Village Commissioner Andreana Jackson; new PAMM acquisition artist Juana Valdes; and PAMM collection artists José Bedia and Eduoard Duval-Carrié.

The PAMM Fund for African American Art was established in 2013 with the donation of a \$1 million grant, funded equally by Jorge M. Pérez and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, for the purchase of contemporary art by African American artists for the museum's permanent collection. Through the Fund, the museum first acquired works by Al Loving, Faith Ringgold, and Xaviera Simmons. These works joined other significant PAMM collection objects by artists such as Leonardo Drew, Sam Gilliam, Rashid Johnson, Lorna Simpson, James Van Der Zee, Carrie Mae Weems, Kehinde Wiley, and Purvis Young.

The Fourth Annual Reception for the PAMM Fund for African American Art was presented by Knight Foundation with additional support from KROMA Art Space & Studios. Support from d'Ussé Cognac is also gratefully acknowledged.

For more information about the PAMM Fund for African American Art, or to join the PAMM Ambassadors for African American Art, visit pamm.org/artfund.

Event Images: <https://ws.onehub.com/folders/xpc9up3n>

Caption: [Name] at the Fourth Annual Reception for the PAMM Fund for African American Art

Photos by WorldRedEye.com

About PAMM

Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) promotes artistic expression and the exchange of ideas, advancing public knowledge and appreciation of art, architecture and design, and reflecting the diverse community of its pivotal geographic location at the crossroads of the Americas. A 32-year-old South Florida institution formerly known as Miami Art Museum (MAM), Pérez Art Museum Miami opened a new building, designed by world-renowned architects Herzog & de Meuron, in Downtown Miami's Museum Park on December 4, 2013. The facility is a state-of-the-art model for sustainable museum design and progressive programming and features 200,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor program space with flexible galleries; shaded outdoor verandas; a waterfront restaurant and bar; a museum shop; and an education center with a library, media lab, and classroom spaces. For more information, please visit pamm.org.





For media inquiries, please contact:
Alexa Ferra | aferra@pamm.org | 786 345 5619

##

Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. Support is provided by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners. Additional support is provided by the City of Miami and the Miami OMNI Community Redevelopment Agency (OMNI CRA). Pérez Art Museum Miami is an accessible facility. All contents ©Pérez Art Museum Miami. All rights reserved.

