



# THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

### **THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES (MOCA) ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP**

#### **MARIA SEFERIAN ELECTED BOARD CHAIR CAROLYN POWERS ELECTED PRESIDENT**

**LOS ANGELES**—The Board of Trustees of The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (MOCA), today announced that Maria Seferian has been elected by the Board of Trustees of MOCA to be Chair of the Board. Maurice Marciano and Lilly Tartikoff Karatz, who had held the position of Co-Chairs of the Board since January 2014, had announced earlier this year that they would step down after identifying their successor in an orderly process.

Also announced today was news that Carolyn Powers has been elected President of the Board. Ms. Powers will assume the position vacated by Ms. Seferian as she assumes her new role.

“MOCA is an extraordinary institution with an unparalleled collection and important history in and beyond Los Angeles. I want to thank Maurice and Lilly for their support and exceptional contributions and generosity to our museum. It’s a true privilege to continue serving our institution and working with our dedicated Board and staff. I’m thrilled to work with Klaus Biesenbach, our new director, to help shape the museum’s exciting future.” Ms. Seferian said.

“I am deeply honored by this appointment and look forward to working with Maria and my fellow trustees at MOCA to ensure the museum’s continued growth and development,” says Ms. Powers. “There is so much enthusiasm and love for MOCA. By effectively harnessing this energy we will do great things!”

“I speak on behalf of myself and Lilly when I say that it has been a great honor and privilege to serve MOCA as its co-chairs and to see the museum thriving and financially stronger than ever, with an endowment over \$134 million, and such a bright future,” says MOCA Trustee Maurice Marciano. “We congratulate Maria and Carolyn and look forward with confidence and enthusiasm to supporting them. I am especially excited to welcome Klaus as our new director. He has a great vision for MOCA and he and his team will have our full support.”

Ms. Seferian assumes leadership of the Board as MOCA enters into its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Ms. Seferian has served as President of the Board since 2015, and she served as chair of MOCA’s Search Committee, together with Catherine Opie, Mark Bradford, Cliff Einstein, and Carol Appel, that identified Biesenbach to become MOCA’s new Director. Ms. Seferian also served as Interim Director of MOCA from Fall 2013 to Spring 2014 during MOCA’s unprecedented endowment campaign to bring MOCA’s endowment to over \$100 million and preserve the continued independence of the museum. Prior to that, Ms. Seferian was a partner at Munger, Tolles & Olson specializing in Mergers & Acquisitions, corporate governance, and capital markets.

Ms. Powers joined MOCA’s board in 2009 and has been co-chair of the development committee for almost five years. She is a nationally-respected cultural philanthropist who has served on many boards of all sizes across the country. Powers has served on the board of Americans for the Arts since 2014, the Kennedy Center National Committee for the Performing Arts (2009-present) and International Committee (2013-2018), and has been a trustee of the GRAMMY

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Museum Foundation since 2011, to name but a few. Her passion for art and culture is matched by her deep knowledge of and commitment to philanthropic leadership and governance.

These elections follow the recent appointment of Klaus Biesenbach as MOCA's Director, the result of an international search by the Board's Search Committee. Biesenbach will assume executive leadership of MOCA on Monday, October 22, 2018.

**THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES (MOCA)**

**About MOCA:** Founded in 1979, MOCA is the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short period of time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth; a world-class permanent collection of more than 7,000 objects, international in scope and among the finest in the world; hallmark education programs that are widely-emulated; award-winning publications that present original scholarship; groundbreaking monographic, touring, and thematic exhibitions of international repute that survey the art of our time; and cutting-edge engagement with modes of new media production. MOCA is a not-for-profit institution that relies on a variety of funding sources for its activities.

**Hours:** MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles) is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11am to 6pm; Thursday from 11am to 8pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm; and closed on Tuesday. The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA (located at 152 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012) has the same hours as MOCA Grand Avenue during exhibitions. Please call ahead or go to [moca.org](http://moca.org) for the exhibition schedule for The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA. MOCA Pacific Design Center (located at 8687 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood, CA 90069) is open Tuesday through Friday from 11am to 5pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 6pm; and closed on Monday. The MOCA Store at MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue) is open Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 10:30am to 5:30pm; Thursday from 10:30am to 8:30pm; and Saturday and Sunday from 10:30am to 6:30pm.

**Museum Admission:** General admission is free for all MOCA members. General admission is also free for all people on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm and always free at MOCA Pacific Design Center. General admission at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is \$15 for adults; \$8 for students with I.D.; \$10 for seniors (65+); and free for children under 12 and jurors with I.D.

**More Information:** For 24-hour information on current exhibitions, education programs, and special events, call 213/626-6222 or access MOCA online at [moca.org](http://moca.org).

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**MEDIA CONTACTS**

Sarah Stifler  
Chief Communications Officer  
[sstifler@moca.org](mailto:sstifler@moca.org)  
213/633-5363

Eva Seta  
Associate Director, Communications  
[eseta@moca.org](mailto:eseta@moca.org)  
213/633-5322

