

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT



2013



Michael Govan

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

(323) 857-6001
(323) 857-6148
publicinfo@lacma.org
www.lacma.org
@LACMA

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For the second year in a row, over 1.2 million visitors came to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art — double the attendance of just six years ago. Many of those visitors were LA County residents who enjoy free admission to the museum after 3:00 p.m. every weekday.

We also continue to offer free admission to children and their parents through our acclaimed Arts for NexGen program, which counts 158,000 youth members.

LACMA presented 14 exhibitions this year — all but one of which were organized right here in LA by our own world-class curators. These included: Retrospectives of LA artists such as Ken Price, Stephen Prina, Ed Ruscha, and James Turrell; Important European exhibitions on Caravaggio, Hans Richter, and Henri Matisse; Masterpieces from China’s Ming Dynasty; and an incredibly rich look into the life and work of filmmaker Stanley Kubrick.

We also installed, for the first time in LACMA’s history, permanent gallery space for African art.

In addition to the exhibitions mounted at LACMA, the museum’s curators also sent 13 exhibitions to 21 different venues around the world. Our shows traveled to Japan, Australia, France, Germany, Mexico, Canada, and all around the U.S. When the Louvre wanted to show an exhibition on the history of French fashion, they called LACMA for our esteemed collection of European dress.

Ken Price was the second LACMA-organized retrospective in the last three years to travel to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

In an unprecedented act of cultural exchange, LACMA collaborated with the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and the Terra Foundation on the organization of an important exhibition of American masterpieces which toured Korea to much acclaim.

In return, we can look forward to national treasures from Korea’s Joseon Dynasty in an exhibition opening at LACMA in summer 2014.

Furthering our mission to share our extraordinary encyclopedic collection with the widest possible audience, LACMA made 80,000 objects from its permanent collection available online this year. Twenty-thousand of those artworks are available as restriction-free, high-resolution images which you can download from lacma.org.

We are proud to be at the forefront of museums in presenting their collections in a high-quality, easily accessible online forum.

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We have heard from educators around the world, thanking us for making these images available. LACMA continues to work with teachers all around LA County as well. Our education team reached more than 75,000 students through school-tour programs, in addition to providing in-classroom materials and educators in nearly 800 local schools and community sites.

So much of the success we have achieved in recent years has been due to the transformation of our campus and our collections. This year alone we added nearly 2,000 more artworks to our collection and in the last six years we have doubled the size of our campus. Most importantly, we added more than 18,000 artworks to our collection — including game-changing collections of photography, modern art, objects from the Pacific Islands, and more.

As LACMA's collection and audience grows, we continue to chart the course for the future of this museum.

This year we unveiled plans for a proposed new building by the acclaimed Pritzker Prize-winning architect Peter Zumthor. While still in the planning stages, Zumthor's proposal is an exciting, forward-thinking building that embodies a host of cutting-edge, innovative ideas.

While still in the planning stages, the building would contain LACMA's diverse permanent collection. In the same square footage as the four buildings it would replace, the new building would allow us to show twice as much art. It would also open up Hancock Park, creating easy pedestrian passage from the La Brea Tar Pits at the Page Museum on the east side to the future Academy Museum of Motion Pictures on the west.

We had the pleasure of sharing Peter Zumthor's vision for LACMA in an exhibition this summer as part of the Getty-funded *Pacific Standard Time Presents: Modern Architecture in LA*. We enjoyed having a public discussion with the architect, and hearing from many people hailing from all parts of LA County about this exciting project.

The proposed building is nevertheless still in its early planning phases; we look forward to sharing more updates on the project in the months and years to come.

Every day we at the museum are striving to bring our collections to as many people as possible — in the galleries, in schools, online, and around the world. We are grateful for the incredible support given to us by LA County, as well as by our donors, members, and visitors.

We are excited about the road ahead and will continue our work with the County, our board, and our supporters to ensure that LACMA remains a thriving, active institution for generations to come.