

LESLIE – LOHMAN MUSEUM OF GAY AND LESBIAN ART



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art Commences Major Expansion in SoHo

Museum begins construction on expansion, doubling the size of its historic location



Exterior view of Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay & Lesbian Art. Photo by Mon Iker.

New York, NY (October 27, 2016) – The **Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art**, the world’s first and only art museum focused on LGBTQ art, is pleased to announce that construction has begun on the expansion project, which will effectively double the size of the Museum’s historic location on Wooster Street in SoHo. The Museum, which is expanding into the space adjacent to the existing exhibition gallery, will open to the public in early 2017 with a presentation of recent acquisitions and collection highlights from the last three decades.

The Leslie-Lohman Museum, which has a rich and nearly thirty-year history in SoHo, will increase its physical footprint from 3,300 square-feet to 5,600 square-feet, and will incorporate new exhibition spaces, a book and gift shop, improved education and events spaces, and updated collection storage areas. This physical evolution of the Museum will allow Leslie-Lohman to continue serving the LGBTQ and art communities by better showcasing the Museum’s collection of over 30,000 objects in these new exhibition spaces, while remaining open to the public all year round.

“This expansion marks an extraordinary turning point and phase of substantive growth for the Museum, which has had a strong presence in SoHo for nearly 30 years,” says Interim Museum Director Meryl A. Allison. “Not only are we adding an entirely new gallery to the Museum, but we are also actively enhancing our permanent collection

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through our recently announced Hunter O’Hanian Diversity Art Fund. This fund, which has raised over \$40,000 since its inception this summer, supports our mission of representing all of our constituents as it focuses on collecting work by female, transgender, and artists of color.”

The inaugural collection exhibition in early 2017 will help tell the story of Leslie-Lohman’s thirty-year history and will demonstrate the depth of the Museum’s incomparable collection of LGBTQ art, which is continually being added to. The show will contain approximately 140 works of art, many of which have never been exhibited before, with artists including Bernice Abbott, George Bellows, Richard Hamilton, Go Mishima, and Mickalene Thomas.

Leslie-Lohman’s announcement regarding this physical expansion dovetails with the initial unveiling of a new visual identity. The new logo introduces a refreshingly sleek and streamlined look, while retaining the Museum founders’ original design and vibrant color palette.

For more information on the expansion, forthcoming initiatives, and to see Leslie-Lohman’s new visual identity, please visit <http://www.leslielohman.org>.

Press Preview and 2017 Opening

For more information regarding the inaugural press preview, please contact Andrew@SUTTONpr.com.

About Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art

The Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art is the first and only dedicated LGBTQ art museum in the world with a mission to exhibit and preserve LGBTQ art, and foster the artists who create it. The Museum has a collection of over 30,000 objects, a research library with over 2,000 volumes, 6-8 major exhibitions annually, artist talks, film screenings, readings, THE ARCHIVE - a quarterly art newsletter, and a membership program. The Leslie-Lohman Museum began as the Leslie/Lohman Gay Art Foundation, Inc., a non-profit founded in 1987 by Charles W. Leslie and Fritz Lohman, who have supported gay and lesbian artists for over 30 years. The Leslie-Lohman Museum embraces the rich creative history of the LGBTQ art community by educating, informing, inspiring, entertaining, and challenging all who enter its doors.

Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art

26 Wooster Street

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Gallery Hours: Tues – Sat: Noon-6pm

Thursday: Noon – 8 pm

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