

WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

945 Madison Avenue at Seventy-Fifth Street New York, New York 10021 (212) 249-4100

For Release

On receipt
11/9/70

WHITNEY SCULPTURE ANNUAL TO BE 50% WOMEN

Fake
John I.H. Baur, Director of the Whitney Museum, with curators Robert Doty, James Monte and Marcia Tucker, announced today that the 1970 Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Sculpture has been selected on the basis of fifty percent representation by women and 50% by men, equally divided between whites and non-whites. The Annual opens December 12 and continues to February 7, 1971.

Fake
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For many years the policy of the Whitney Museum has been directed towards advancing the interests of women artists. Founded by a women artist, its board headed by a women, it has organized more one-man shows by women artists than any other New York museum, and a substantial part of its permanent collection is comprised of work by women. It is, therefore, only natural that the Whitney be the first museum in the United States to acknowledge the justice of equal representation for women as a means of responding most fully to the needs and aspirations of a major portion of the art world.

The Whitney Annual, New York's only regular survey of the current scene, presents the ideal opportunity to offer women artists a greater role in directing the nature of American art today.

In a statement issued jointly with the Museum's Board of Trustees and the curators who selected the exhibition, Mr. Baur stressed that fact that "while percentages are not to become a museum policy for all exhibitions, increasing awareness of the achievements of special interest groups has led us to feel that an equal male/female representation at this time is a salutary and necessary step."

The Whitney Museum's schedule for the next six months also includes two shows by women artists (LOUISE NEVELSON and LEE LOZANO, opening November 10 and December 2, respectively), a selection of women's art from the permanent collection (Dec. 7 - Jan. 19), and BLACK ARTISTS IN AMERICA (April 6 - May 16).

For further information: Stephen Weil
Leon Levine
Ronni Roland

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~~11-11-70~~
For Release ~~Immediate~~

URGENT: TO ALL EDITORS

Press release mailed you, dated 11-9-70, purporting to be from the Whitney Museum of American Art, headlined "Whitney Sculpture Annual to be 50% Women" is a complete forgery - repeat a forgery. ~~contested~~ Facts are totally untrue.

John. I. H. Baur
Director

For further information call Leon Levine at Museum
249-4100

*Telephone
P. R. News Ann
2 PM 11/10/70
Kachur*

The press release faxed to you, dated 3-7-08, purporting to be from the Whitney Museum of American Art, is a complete forgery — repeat a forgery. Facts are totally untrue.

The press release, and the subsequent notice dated 11-9-70 and 11-11-70 respectively, is filed in a folder labeled "WMA Controversy" in the archives of the Whitney Museum of American Art's library, located on the first floor of 945 Madison Avenue. Its authors, Poppy Johnson, Lucy Lippard, Brenda Miller, Faith Ringgold, represented the group calling itself "The Ad Hoc Committee of Woman Artists." On March 7, 2008, Walead Beshty, at the invitation of Stuart Bailey and David Reinfurt (participants in the 2008 Whitney Biennial calling themselves "Dexter Sinister") sent these press releases from the Commander's Room of the 7th Regiment Armory, located at 643 Park Avenue.

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