



NATIONAL MUSEUM
of WOMEN in the ARTS

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***National Museum of Women in the Arts awarded \$30,000 from
National Endowment for the Arts
More than \$82 Million Awarded for Arts Projects Nationwide***

WASHINGTON—National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Jane Chu has approved more than \$82 million to fund local arts projects across the country in the NEA's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2017. Included in this announcement is an Art Works award of \$30,000 to the National Museum of Women in the Arts ([NMWA](http://www.nmwa.org)) to support the exhibition *REVIVAL*. The NEA received 1,728 Art Works applications and will make 1,029 grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

"The arts reflect the vision, energy and talent of America's artists and arts organizations," said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support organizations such as the National Museum of Women in the Arts, in serving their communities by providing excellent and accessible arts experiences."

"NEA grants allow museums to be recognized for their work as trusted public institutions and are a sign that the museum is succeeding in its mission to champion women through the arts," said NMWA Director Susan Fisher Sterling. "NEA's generous support of our 30th anniversary exhibition *REVIVAL* also allows us to leverage this grant when approaching other funders to support key exhibitions and programs."

A vital part of NMWA's programming for its 30th anniversary year, *REVIVAL*, on view June 23–Sept. 10, 2017, is drawn from artists' studios, public and private collections, and the museum's collection of global contemporary art. Working in an already image saturated world, contemporary artists in *REVIVAL* invent new forms to spur the viewer into an emotional encounter with the art object. For them, spectacle serves as a catalyst for connection and understanding. Artists in this exhibition favor figurative or highly allusive imagery. Their surreal subjects elicit a ripple of exhilaration, a shiver of fear or a wave of anxiety. Photographs by Lalla Essaydi and sculptures by Alison Saar proffer gripping meditations on ethnic and gender identity. Sculptures by Louise Bourgeois, Sonia Gomes and Polly Morgan and narrative

photographs by Anna Gaskell allude to the vulnerability of the body—and the tenuous hold we have on both the physical and psychic self. Each artist centers their work on the unconscious. They ferret out the unspoken and unseen through disquieting referents including peculiar creatures, wayward children, and the fragmented body.

REVIVAL also demonstrates how artists engage space to generate intensity. Large-scale videos by Maria Marshall and imposing sculptures by Petah Coyne and Saar that hang from the ceiling and high on the wall create immersive, mesmeric environments. Smaller, meticulously wrought works that draw the viewer in also deliver strong sensorial effect. The handwork in Sonya Clark’s and Joana Vasconcelos’ series of textile-based sculptures powerfully evokes the repetition and persistence required to create them. Many artists in this exhibition work serially, exemplifying their captivation with particular aesthetic and conceptual questions. A number of artists in *REVIVAL* are recognized for their idiosyncratic techniques or subjects. This project proposes that each participates in a broader impulse to exploit the mutability of sculpture and photography in order to reanimate deep-rooted ideas and reawaken emotion.

To join the Twitter conversation about this announcement, use #NEASpring17. For more information on projects included in the NEA grant announcement, go to www.arts.gov.

National Museum of Women in the Arts

The National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) is the world’s only major museum solely dedicated to celebrating the creative contributions of women. The museum champions women through the arts by collecting, exhibiting, researching and creating programs that advocate for equity and shine a light on excellence. NMWA highlights remarkable women artists of the past while also promoting the best women artists working today. The museum’s collection includes over 5,000 works by more than 1,000 women artists from the 16th century to the present, including Mary Cassatt, Frida Kahlo, Alma Thomas, Lee Krasner, Louise Bourgeois, Chakaia Booker and Nan Goldin.

NMWA is located at 1250 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C., in a landmark building near the White House. It is open Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, noon–5 p.m. For information, call 202-783-5000 or visit nmwa.org. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for visitors 65 and over and students, and free for NMWA members and youths 18 and under. Free Community Days take place on the first Sunday of each month. For more information about NMWA, visit nmwa.org, [Broad Strokes Blog](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).

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