Palm Springs Art Museum Presents Modern Masters Exhibition



Vincent Van Gogh, *Nature Morte aux Oranges*, 1888, oil on canvas, on loan from an anonymous collector, courtesy of Heather James Fine Art

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (June XX, 2015) – Palm Springs Art Museum presents a selection of outstanding masterworks on loan from an anonymous private collection. From Edouard Manet to Edward Ruscha, these works explore the potential of oil painting in the hands of some of the world's most influential artists. Additional artists represented include Vincent Van Gogh, Auguste Renoir, Joan Mitchell, Mark Rothko, and Willem de Kooning.

This exhibition is organized by the Palm Springs Art Museum. Transportation for art works is courtesy of Art Works San Diego.

The exhibition features more than 65 works, including 34 large-scale paintings as well as personal ephemera such as photographs, sketch books, and informal painting studies from private and public collections around the world. The collected materials celebrate Liu's career accomplishments and include work completed in China before she arrived in the United States in1984.

Liu's artistic practice investigates the complex interactions between individual memory and history, and documentary evidence and artistic expression, among other themes. Her richly-rendered paintings are vivid and powerful, with subjects drawn from personal experience, cultural and political events, literature, and photography. She has exhibited

internationally at premier museums and galleries, and her work resides in prestigious private and institutional collections around the world.

Trained as a social realist painter and muralist, Hung Liu is one of the first artists from mainland China to study abroad and pursue an art career, arriving in the United States in 1984 to attend the University of California, San Diego, where she received her MFA. She later moved to northern California to become a faculty member at Mills College in 1990, and currently lives in Oakland and is Professor Emerita at Mills College.

Born in Changchun, China, in 1948, a year before the creation of the People's Republic of China, Liu lived through Maoist China and experienced the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution. She studied at a leading art school in China, *Central Academy of Fine Arts*, where she majored in mural painting.

Summoning Ghosts: The Art of Hung Liu was organized by the Oakland Museum of California. The Palm Springs exhibition is funded in part by the Contemporary Art Council and its Presenting Sponsors Jane and Robert Saltonstall, the Cella Family Foundation, Donna MacMillan, and the Terra Foundation for American Art through Board Member Gloria Scoby. Exhibition Season Sponsors are Dorothy and her late husband Harold J. Meyerman, and Arlene Schnitzer.

The museum is located at 101 Museum Drive in Palm Springs and is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday noon to 8 p.m., and closed Monday. A fully illustrated catalogue for the Hung Liu exhibition is available for purchase at the Museum Store, which can be reached at (760) 322-4830.

About Palm Springs Art Museum

Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and includes three locations in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. The flagship building is located in downtown Palm Springs and features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the 433-seat Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000 square foot, architecturally-significant building. Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion features exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert is an 8,400 square foot, Silver LEED-certified building named The Galen that presents rotating exhibitions and special collections. It is surrounded by the four-acre Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden featuring important sculpture works. Admission to the Palm Desert location is now free to the public, generously underwritten by Helene V. Galen. For more information, call 760-322-4800, visit www.psmuseum.org, and follow the museum on Facebook, Twitter and InstaGram.