

SAM SMITH TO PERFORM AT LACMA's 2015 ART+FILM GALA**Fifth Annual Gala on Saturday, November 7, 2015 Honors James Turrell and Alejandro G. Iñárritu****Co-Chaired by Leonardo DiCaprio and Eva Chow and Presented by Gucci**

(Los Angeles, September 10, 2015) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) is pleased to announce that GRAMMY Award–winning artist Sam Smith will perform at the 2015 Art+Film Gala honoring artist James Turrell and filmmaker Alejandro G. Iñárritu. Co-chaired by LACMA trustee Eva Chow and actor Leonardo DiCaprio, this memorable evening will take place on Saturday, November 7, 2015. Gucci provides generous support to LACMA for the fifth consecutive year as the presenting sponsor of the annual event.

"Sam Smith is one of the most incredible artists today," said Eva Chow. "His voice is beautiful and his songs are powerful; he is sure to be a major highlight of this year's gala. We are thrilled to have him."

About Sam Smith

British sensation Sam Smith emerged in early 2014 and quickly garnered attention with two esteemed awards: the BRITs Critic's Choice Award as well as BBC Sound of 2014 prize. The 23-year old has since gone on to make US pop music history with his debut album, *In The Lonely Hour*, selling more copies in its first week of release than any other UK male artist in the history of SoundScan. The critically-lauded full-length bowed at No. 2 on the *Billboard* 200 in the US, while it entered the UK Albums Chart at No. 1.

Smith's award-winning streak has shown no signs of slowing down since those early days, and most recently he took home four GRAMMY Awards (from six nominations) including Best New Artist, Record of the Year, Song of the Year, and Best Pop Vocal Album. Additionally, Smith won Favorite Male Artist–Pop/Rock honors at the 2014 American Music Awards, the VH1 2014 You Oughta Know Artist Of The Year Award, Best New Act at the Q Awards, as well as a BET Award for Best New Artist.

On the one-year anniversary of its US release, *In The Lonely Hour* was still charting in the Top 20 of the *Billboard* 200 and has been certified 2x Platinum by the RIAA. This, along with additional single certifications for "Stay With Me," "Lay Me Down," "Leave Your Lover," and "Money On My Mind," further underscores the tremendous success the young UK artist has had in the US.

In its first year of release in the UK, *In The Lonely Hour* logged an astonishing 50 weeks in the Top 5, a chart feat only previously achieved by The Beatles, according to OfficialCharts.com. The last, and only other, debut album in Official Charts history with this kind of unshakeable performance in its first year of release was The Beatles' *Please Please Me* in 1963. Smith was the only artist to sell one million albums in both the US and the UK in 2014.

Art+Film Gala

Art+Film Gala proceeds will be used to support LACMA's initiative to make film more central to the museum's curatorial programming, while also funding LACMA's broader mission. This includes exhibitions, acquisitions, and educational programming, in addition to screenings that explore the intersection of art and film. In recent years, LACMA has dynamically increased its curatorial programming to include film related exhibitions such as *Tim Burton, Dalí: Painting & Film, Masterworks of Expressionist Cinema: Caligari and Metropolis, Stanley Kubrick, Hans Richter: Encounters, Under the Mexican Sky: Gabriel Figueroa—Art and Film, David Hockney: Seven Yorkshire Landscape Videos, 2011, Agnès Varda in Californialand, David Hockney: The Jugglers,*

Haunted Screens: German Cinema in the 1920s, Christian Marclay's *The Clock*, and the forthcoming exhibition *Diana Thater: The Sympathetic Imagination*. The museum has also witnessed a growth of new audiences as a result of the robust film programming led by Elvis Mitchell through the Film Independent at LACMA partnership.

The Gala Host Committee is chaired by Gucci Creative Director Alessandro Michele, while the honorary committee members are outstanding patrons, visionaries, and leaders from the worlds of film, art, music, and fashion. The 2015 Art+Film Gala Host Committee includes Willow Bay and Bob Iger, Suzanne Deal Booth, Fairfax Dorn and Marc Glimcher, Larry Gagosian, Jami Gertz and Tony Ressler, Cassandra and Brad Grey, Kayne Griffin Corcoran, Lyn and Norman Lear, Miky Lee, Bryan Lourd and Bruce Bozzi, Steven Roth and Kaayla Cevan, Carole Bayer Sager and Bob Daly, Soumaya Slim and Fernando Romero, Susan and Eric Smidt, Ann Tenenbaum and Thomas H. Lee, Steve Tisch and Katia Francesconi, Laura and Casey Wasserman, and Elaine Wynn and Bobby Kotick.

At the 2014 Art+Film Gala, 600 prominent guests celebrated the achievements of artist Barbara Kruger and filmmaker Quentin Tarantino. The evening included a spectacular musical performance by Culture Club as well as a special menu prepared by the renowned chef, Joachim Splichal of Patina. Last year's Art+Film Gala raised over \$3.85 million, with proceeds supporting LACMA's film initiatives and future exhibitions, acquisitions, and programming.

For more information about the 2015 Art+Film Gala tickets and table sales, contact artandfilm@lacma.org or 323 932-5878.

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About LACMA

Since its inception in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography, in addition to representing Los Angeles's uniquely diverse population. Today LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection that includes over 120,000 objects dating from antiquity to the present, encompassing the geographic world and nearly the entire history of art. Among the museum's strengths are its holdings of Asian art, Latin American art, ranging from pre-Columbian masterpieces to works by leading modern and contemporary artists; and Islamic art, of which LACMA hosts one of the most significant collections in the world. A museum of international stature as well as a vital part of Southern California, LACMA shares its vast collections through exhibitions, public programs, and research facilities that attract over a million visitors annually, in addition to serving millions through digital initiatives, such as online collections, scholarly catalogues, and interactive engagement at lacma.org. Situated in Hancock Park on over 20 acres in the heart of Los Angeles, LACMA is located between the ocean and downtown.

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Connect with LACMA



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About Gucci

Founded in Florence in 1921, Gucci is one of the world's leading luxury fashion brands, with a renowned reputation for creativity, innovation and Italian craftsmanship.

Gucci is part of the Kering Group, a world leader in apparel and accessories that owns a portfolio of powerful luxury and sport and lifestyle brands.

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