

Exhibition: *Eleanor Antin: Time's Arrow*

On View: May 12–July 28, 2019

Location: Art of the Americas Building, Plaza Level



Image caption on page 3

(Los Angeles—February 19, 2019) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) is pleased to present *Eleanor Antin: Time's Arrow*, an exhibition debuting two new works by the artist. One of the most important artists of her generation and a pioneer of performance and conceptual art in Southern California, Eleanor Antin (b. 1935) challenged definitions of sculpture, performance, self-portraiture, and documentation with her 1972 work *CARVING: A Traditional Sculpture*. Consisting of 148 black-and-white photographs, *CARVING* shows the transformation of Antin's body as she lost 10 pounds over 37 days. In 2017, Antin restaged her landmark performance. In *CARVING: 45 Years Later*, the artist again documented herself as she "carved" her body, producing 500 black-and-white photographs over the course of 100 days.

Presenting four artworks comprising over 600 individual photographs, *Eleanor Antin: Time's Arrow* brings together both *CARVING* series, a new self-portrait, *!!!* (2017), and a related serial work, *The Eight Temptations* (1972), provoking reflection on discipline, vulnerability, and the passage of time.

"For 50 years, Eleanor Antin has been a pioneering voice in contemporary art—one of the progenitors of performance and conceptual art in Southern California," said Dhyandra Lawson, curatorial assistant in the Wallis Annenberg Photography Department at LACMA. "We are excited to debut Antin's new work *CARVING: 45 Years Later*, a monumental, intensive restaging of her classic piece."

"LACMA has been a longstanding champion of Antin's work," said LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director Michael Govan. "In 1999, LACMA organized *Eleanor Antin*, a major 30-year survey of her career, and more recently in 2009, presented

Classical Frieze: Eleanor Antin. We're also fortunate to host some of Eleanor's most iconic artworks in our collection, including *100 Boots* (1973) and *Recollections of My Life with Diaghilev, 1919–1925* (1977–80), and several of her seminal video works such as *Representational Painting* (1971), *The King* (1972), *The Ballerina and the Bum* (1974), and *The Angel of Mercy* (1977–81)."

Eleanor Antin: Time's Arrow is curated by Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director, with Dhyandra Lawson, curatorial assistant in the Wallis Annenberg Photography Department at LACMA. Following its presentation at LACMA, the exhibition will travel to the Art Institute of Chicago (August 17, 2019–January 5, 2020).

About Eleanor Antin

A key conceptual artist of the 1970s, Eleanor Antin is known for a groundbreaking practice that spans five decades and has covered themes surrounding identity, gender, autobiography, class, and social structures. Antin's multidisciplinary approach includes installation, painting, drawing, writing, and, most notably, photography and performance. Rearticulating historical narratives, both real and fictitious, she explores the tropes of feminist and conceptual art. She remains one of the world's leading feminist artists.

Over the last 50 years Antin has performed and exhibited her work internationally. She has been the subject of numerous major solo institutional exhibitions, including *Multiple Occupancy: Eleanor Antin's "Selves,"* Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA (2014); *Eleanor Antin: Historical Takes,* San Diego Art Museum, San Diego, CA (2008); *Eleanor Antin: Real Time Streaming,* Arnolfini, Bristol, UK, and Mead Gallery, Warwick, UK (2001); *Eleanor Antin,* Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA (1999); and *Eleanor Antin: Selections from the Angel of Mercy,* Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY (1997). In 1975, her seminal exhibition *100 Boots* debuted at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY.

As a performance artist, Antin has appeared in venues all around the world, including the *37th International Art Exhibition* at the Venice Biennale, Italy (2005), and the Sydney Opera House, Australia (2002). Her work is included in many other important public collections such as the Art Institute of Chicago; Whitney Museum of American Art; Museum of Modern Art (MoMA); Jewish Museum; and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, among others.

Eleanor Antin earned a Bachelor of Arts from City College of New York (CCNY) in 1958 and holds an honorary doctorate from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2009). She currently lives and works in San Diego, California.

Related Public Programming

The Director's Series: Michael Govan and Eleanor Antin

Tue, Jun 18, 2019 | 7:30–8:30 pm

Bing Theater | Free, tickets required. Tickets include admission to *Eleanor Antin: Time's Arrow*, open 5–7:30 pm prior to the program.

LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director Michael Govan speaks with artist Eleanor Antin.

Credit: This exhibition is organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, with The Art Institute of Chicago.

All exhibitions at LACMA are underwritten by the LACMA Exhibition Fund. Major annual support is provided by Mr. and Mrs. Anthony and Lee Shaw, Kitzia and Richard Goodman, Jerry and Kathleen Grundhofer, Meredith and David Kaplan, and Jeffrey Saikohn, with generous annual funding from the Judy and Bernard Briskin Family Foundation, Louise and Brad Edgerton, Edgerton Foundation, Emily and Teddy Greenspan, Marilyn B. and Calvin B. Gross, Mary and Daniel James, David Lloyd and Kimberly Steward, Kelsey Lee Offield, David Schwartz Foundation, Inc., Andy Song, Lenore and Richard Wayne, and The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation.

About LACMA

Located on the Pacific Rim, LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of nearly 140,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of artistic expression across the globe. Committed to showcasing a multitude of art histories, LACMA exhibits and interprets works of art from new and unexpected points of view that are informed by the region's rich cultural heritage and diverse population. LACMA's spirit of experimentation is reflected in its work with artists, technologists, and thought leaders as well as in its regional, national, and global partnerships to share collections and programs, create pioneering initiatives, and engage new audiences.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. lacma.org

Image caption: Eleanor Antin, *CARVING: 45 Years Later* (detail, first day of 2017 performance, March 7, 2017, 9:25 am, 130.6 lbs), 2017, © Eleanor Antin, courtesy of the artist and Ronald Feldman Gallery, New York

Press Contact

Erin Yokomizo | Senior Associate, Communications | eyokomizo@lacma.org | 323 932-5825

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