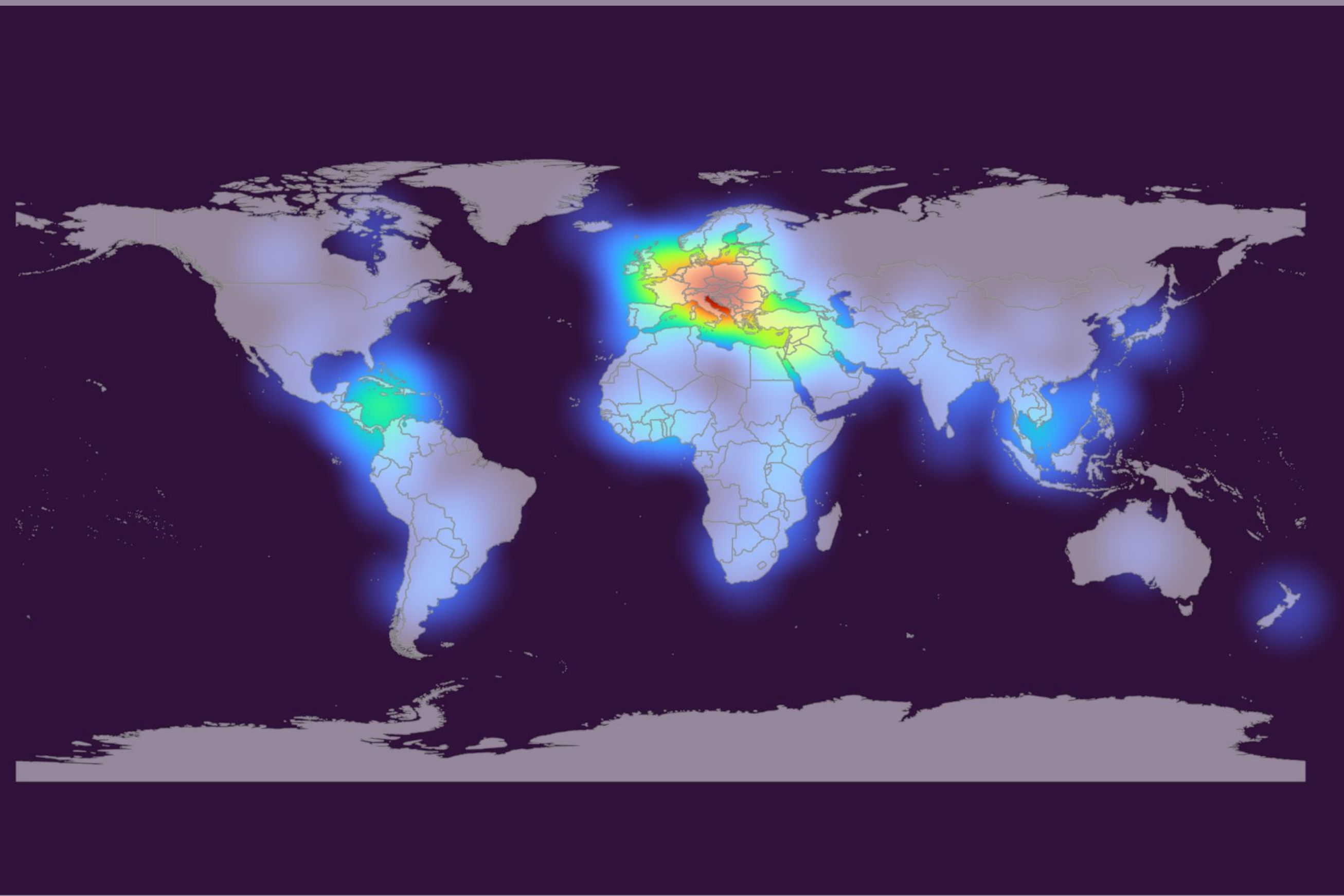


Diversity In Museums: An Audit of MOMA's Collection History

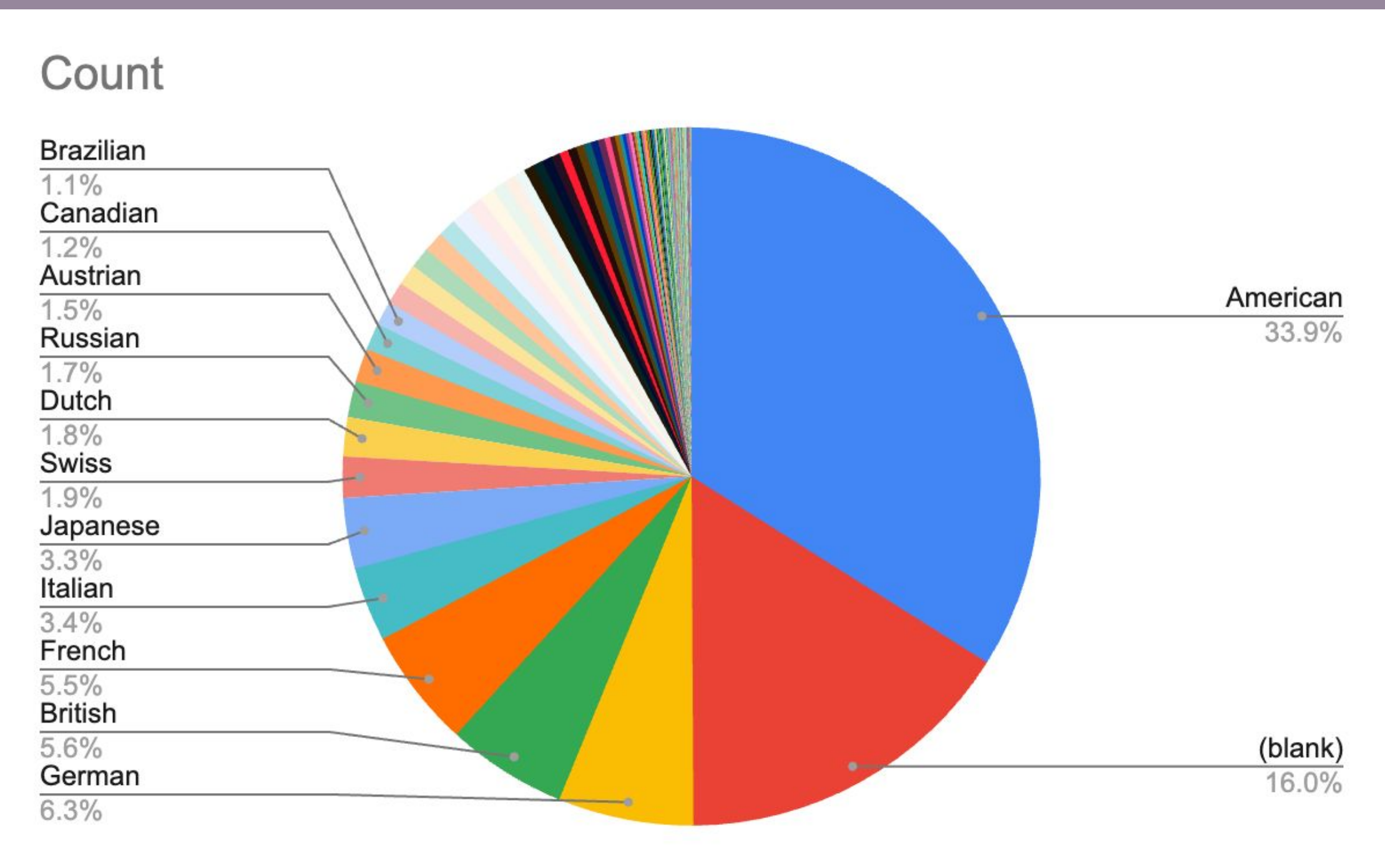
Gabriel Valenzuela

As public-facing institutions, museums have a unique responsibility to mirror the diversity of the communities they serve. Museums like the **Museum of Modern Art (MOMA)** are not just repositories of art and history; they are cultural beacons that influence public perception and understanding.

This project aims to analyze the nationalities and genders of the artists represented within the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA)'s collection records. This analysis serves to shed light on the institution's progress towards inclusivity and identifies areas for improvement.



Artist Nationality Heat Map



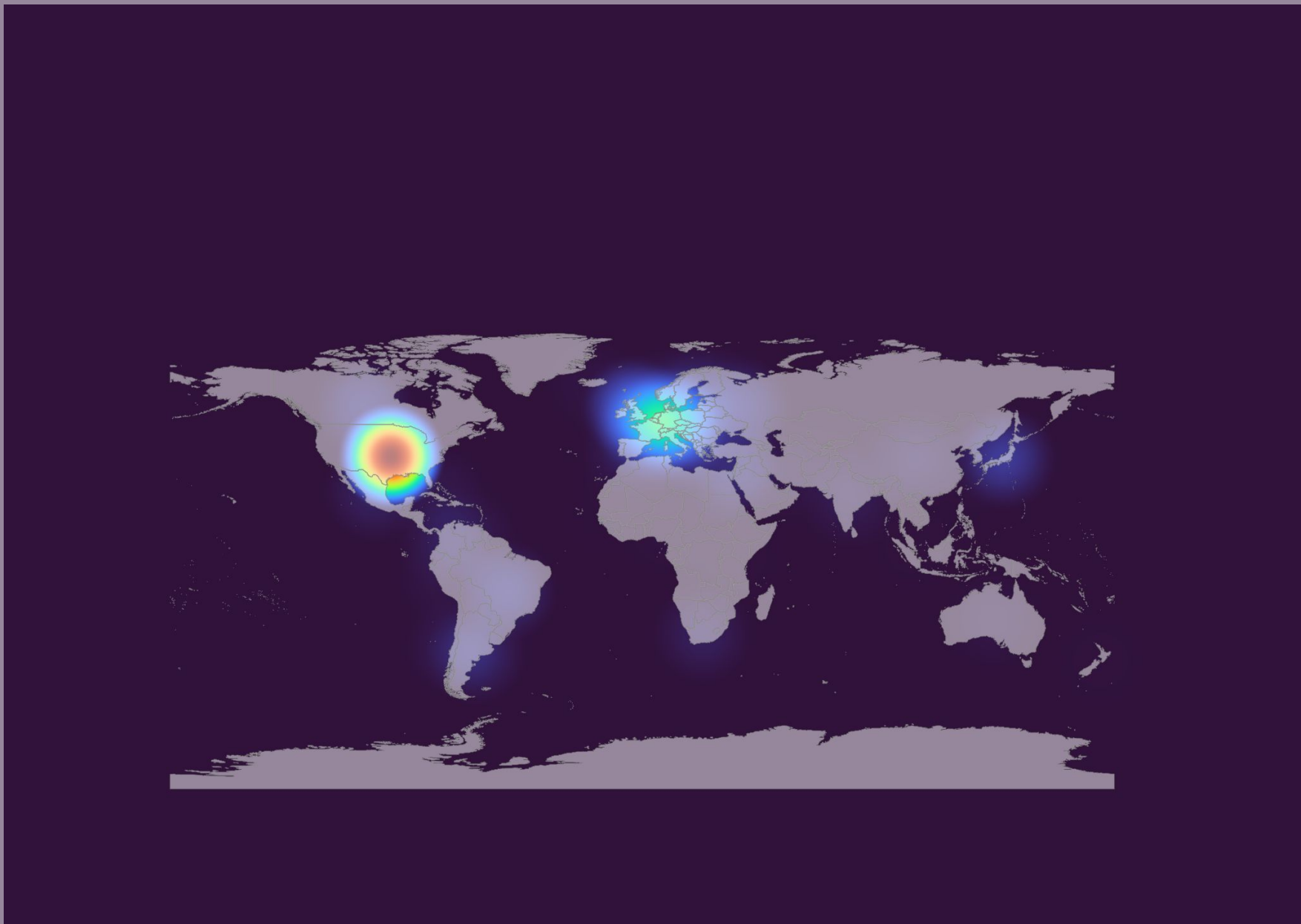
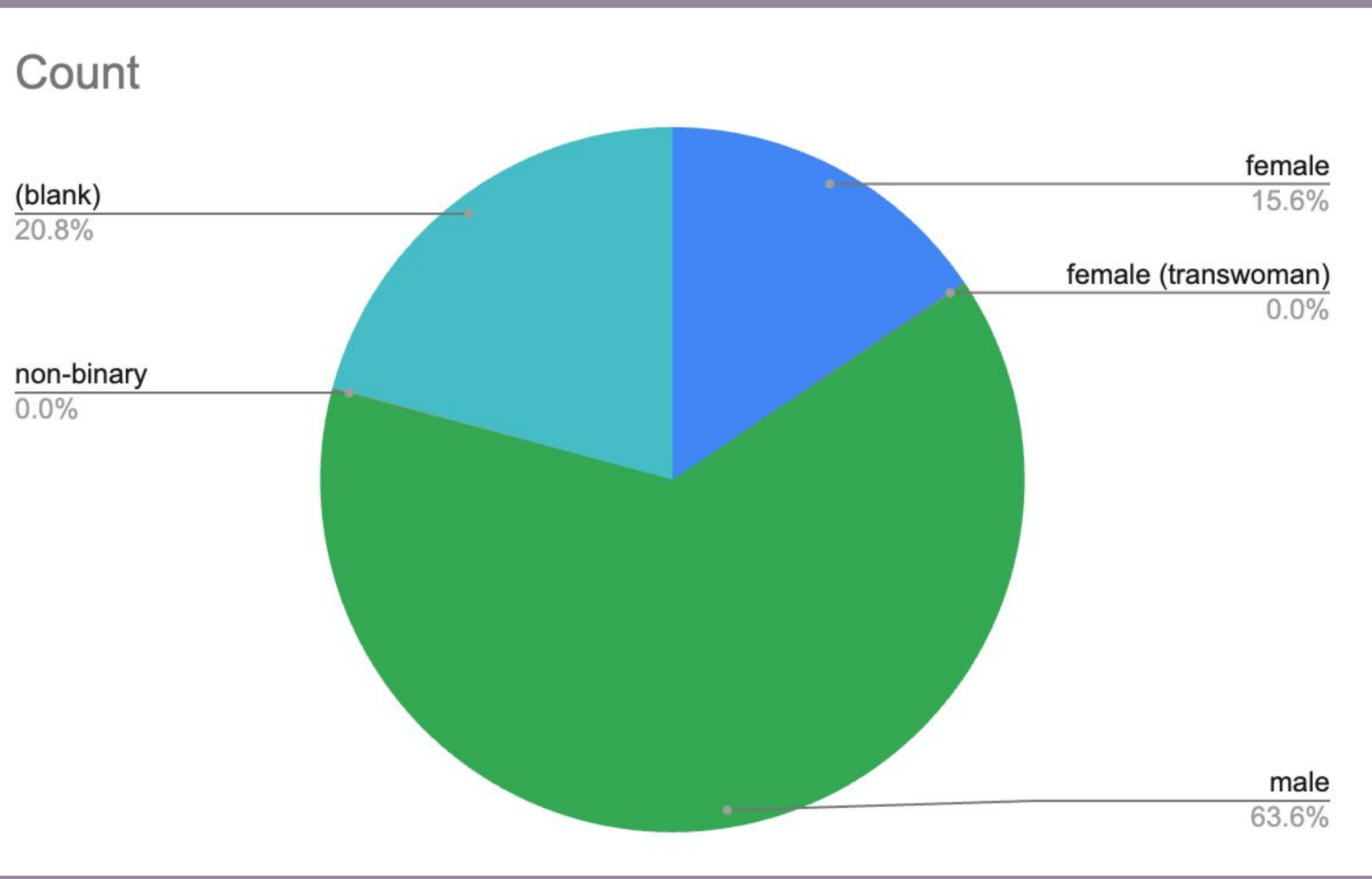
Analysis:

The analysis focused on understanding the representation of artists by **nationality** and **gender**.

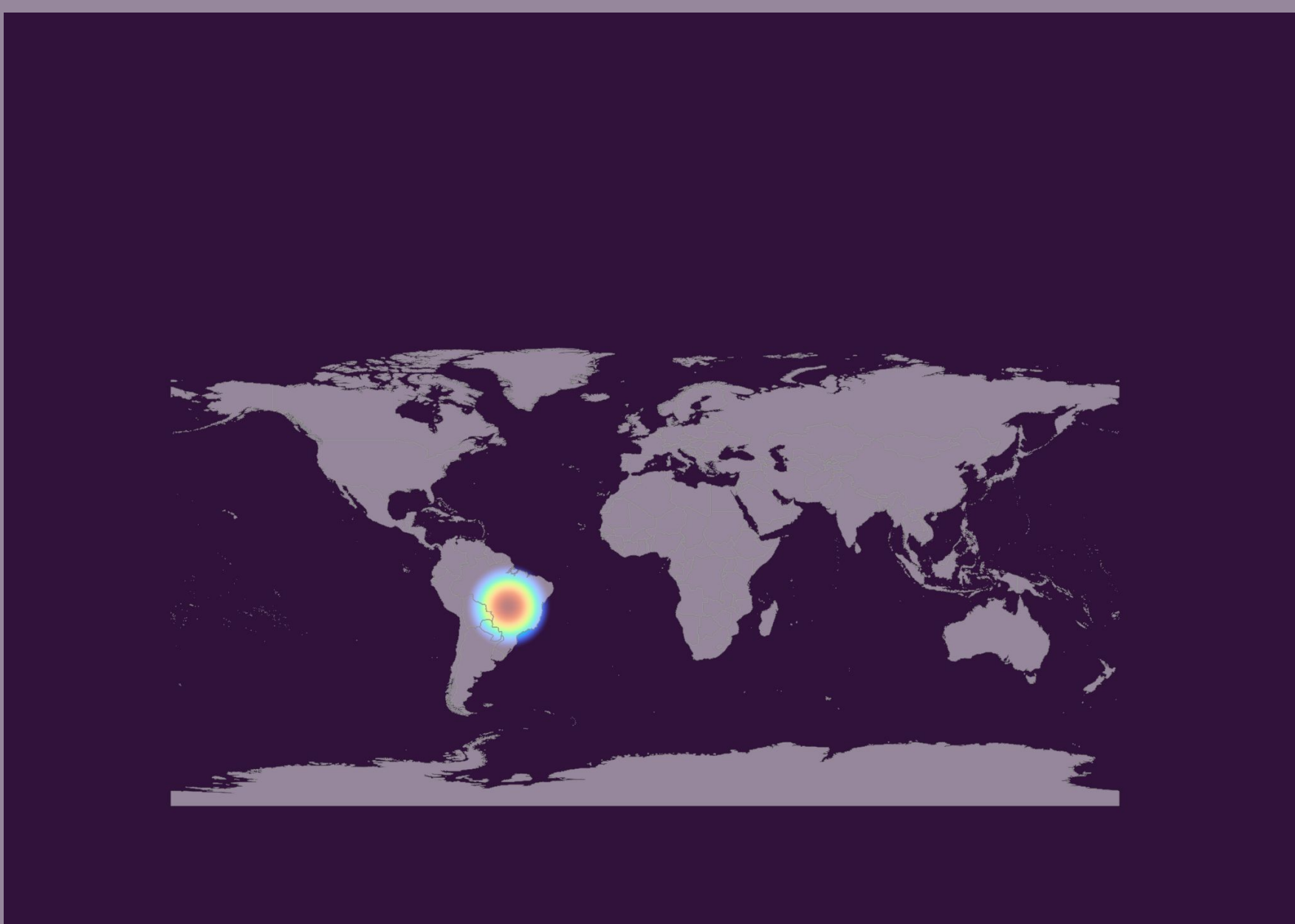
The cleaned dataset revealed that **a significant percentage of artists in the collection are American, accounting for approximately 33.9% of the total artists.** This reflects a strong **national bias**, emphasizing the prominence of American artists within the museum's collection.

Additionally, when analyzing gender representation, **male artists dominate the dataset, comprising approximately 63.6% of the total.** This disparity underscores an imbalance in gender diversity within the collection, where female and non-binary artists remain significantly underrepresented.

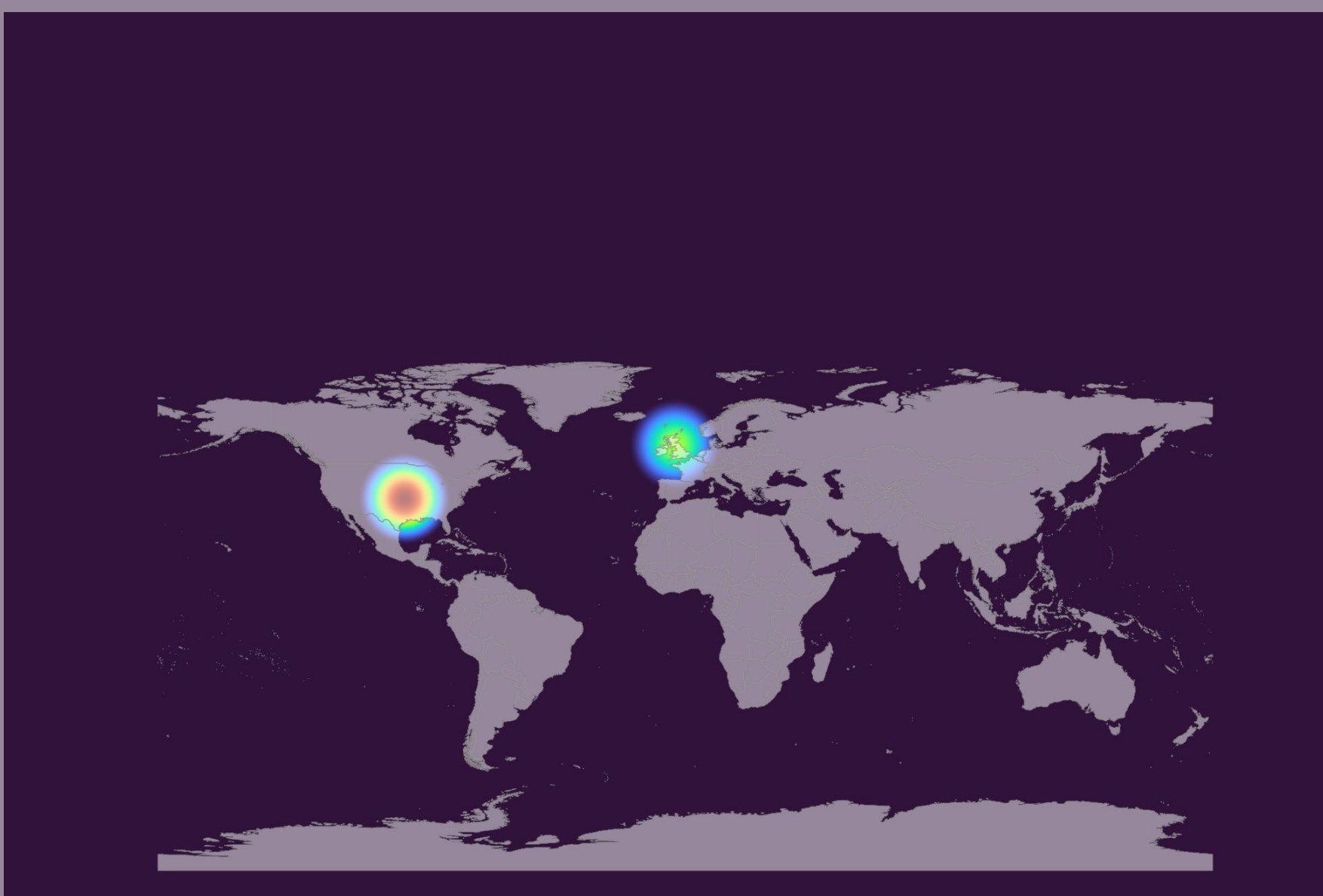
These findings are critical for assessing the diversity and inclusivity of the museum's collection. The results demonstrate a need for broader representation of international artists and gender diversity to achieve a more inclusive narrative of artistic contributions globally.



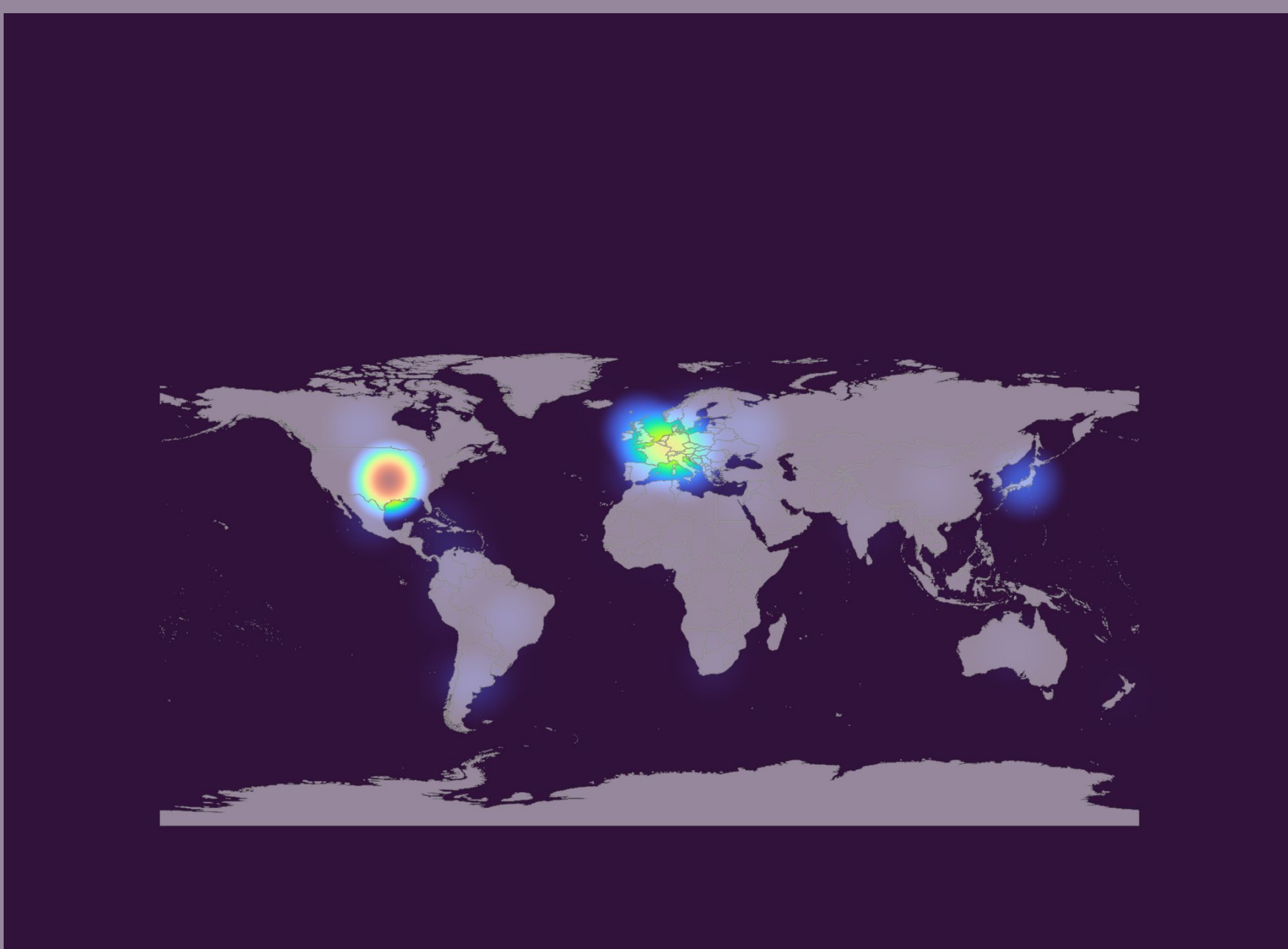
Cisgender Women



Transgender Women



Gender-Nonconforming



Cisgender Men

Conclusion:

This analysis highlighted significant disparities in the representation of artists within the museum's collection, particularly in terms of nationality and gender. The dominance of **American artists**, who account for a substantial percentage of the total, reflects a curatorial focus that may overlook diverse global contributions. Additionally, the overwhelming presence of **male artists** underscores a persistent gender imbalance, pointing to historical and systemic biases in the art world.

These findings serve as a call to action for institutions to adopt more equitable practices, ensuring that art collections better reflect the diversity of artistic expression across nationalities, genders, and cultures. Addressing these gaps will help create a richer, more representative narrative of global art history.

Limitations:

Although American artists are disproportionately represented within MOMA's collection compared to artists with other nationalities, it is important to note that these **artists can be from any ethnic background**.

Data Source:

<https://github.com/MuseumofModernArt/collection>

Pratt

Data Librarianship & Mgmt. 24/FA-INFO-628-01
Professor Vicky Rampin