

public



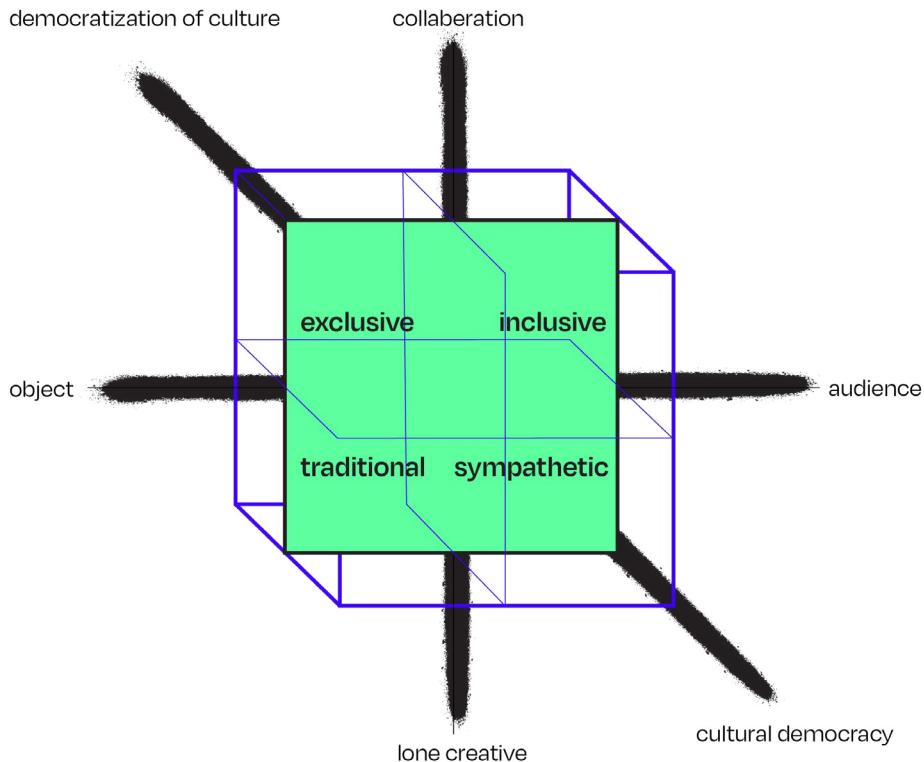
property

museums can't be private property

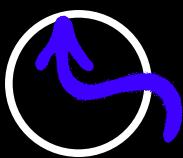
"Art museums underscore cultural continuities rather than highlighting cultural differences"

Art museums today continue to struggle with issues of social relevance, elitism, and ownership. Many museums and institutions struggle with the "threshold fear," the idea that museums intimidate visitors who were not raised in a museum culture and feel unwelcome and unrepresented in their galleries. Museums similarly suffer from the "threshold fear", unaware of how to attract and engage with local communities outside of the "educated art circle".

Art museums underscore cultural continuities rather than highlighting cultural differences and expressing the diversity of the local public. Clearly, museums have never been neutral spaces, and the conceit that they present widely shared social values to which we all aspire is wildly out of date.



Considering Competing Values in Art Museum Exhibition Curation -Pat Villeneuve



"...Museums will change their curatorial practices when compelled to do so—whether to keep up with other museums or address financial or attendance issues, for instance. However, effecting lasting change in the curatorial process will inevitably require other changes throughout the museum organization, which can be thought of as an ecosystem. Such changes in values and practice take time and are not always neatly resolved. Organizational restructuring is likely necessary to enable the communication and level playing field necessary for collaborative team curation. Although steps can be taken in a bottom-up approach—such as an education department presenting a visitor-centered demonstration exhibition in an education space—strong administrative leadership is key in expediting the change and institutionalizing an overall shift in museum values. The model for museum curation can be used as a tool to facilitate this process."





we are

public
property

about

The public of any area develop the culture, community, and creativity possible to form a thriving city, however are intentionally excluded from cultural institutions — especially the art museum. It is the goal of Public Property to decolonize art museums, and allow the public to reclaim in their rightful place within them. Public property is calling for participation from art museums across America to acknowledge the exclusivity of their practice, and expand their collections to become an accurate reflection of the local public.

Public Property is in initiative developed through a partnership with Decolonize this Place.

"Decolonize this Place (DTP) is an action-oriented movement and decolonial formation in New York City and beyond. DTP consists of over 30 collaborators, consisting of grassroots groups and art collectives that seek to resist, unsettle, and reclaim the city... In some cases, we have used cultural institutions as platforms and amplifiers for movement demands, but we do not understand the transformation of these institutions as an end in of itself. We aim to cultivate a politics of autonomy, solidarity, and mutual aid within a long-term, multi-generational horizon of decolonial, anti-capitalist, and feminist liberation" — From DTP.com

Art museums have always failed to address issues of social relevance, elitism, and ownership, while neglecting local communities.*

* *The Art Museum Today, in Discussion*
AAMD (Association of Art Museum Directors)



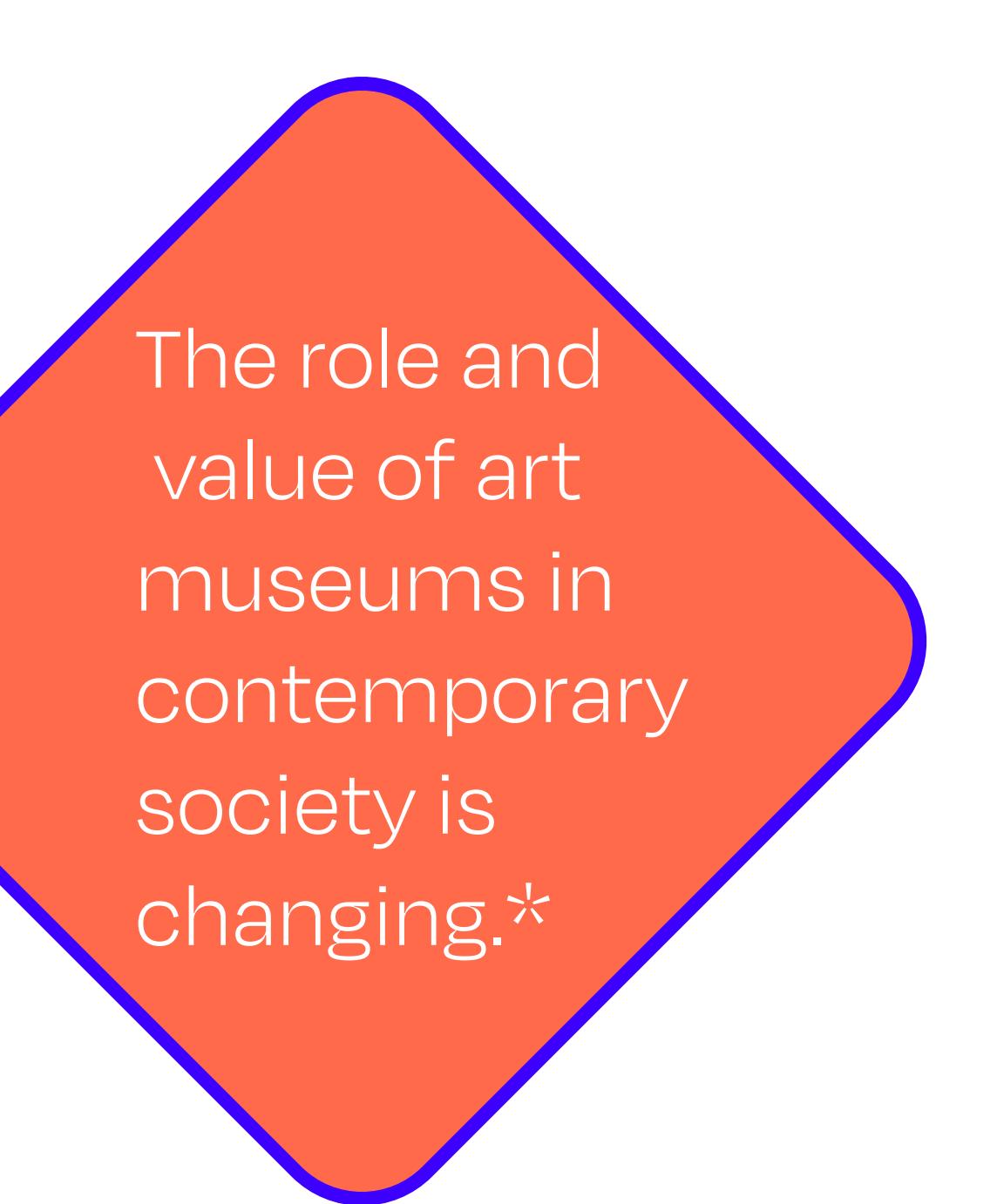
public notice #1

the
future
of
art
and
design

public notices #2

The
relationship
between
the art
museum
and its
audience is
changing.*

* *The Art Museum Today, in Discussion*
AAMD (Association of Art Museum Directors)



The role and
value of art
museums in
contemporary
society is
changing.*

* *The Art Museum Today, in Discussion*
AAMD(Association of Art Museum Directors)

“...The traditional functions of art museums—to collect, preserve, interpret, and present works of art, and to inspire and educate the public—are constantly in flux.

Even the definitions of key words such as “art” and “public” are subject to debate, as is “art museum,” which is used variously to describe collecting and non-collecting institutions. In addition, the proliferation of contemporary art museums has destabilized routine expectations through their broad definitions of art and their engagement with living artists who often question common frames of reference.”

In
order to
remain
relevant, art
museums

must
broaden
their definition
of "public"
and
"art".

public notice #4

in order to
remain relevant
art museums
must become:
public notice #5

an honest
reflexion of
the diversity
and history
of local arts
and culture.

