



contemporary art
and
NYC art museums

I am studying the:

- 1) representation of artworks by women artists in NYC art museums
- 2) representation of artworks by women artists at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)
- 3) representation of artworks by women artists at MoMA compared with The Met's Modern & Contemporary Art Collection (MCAC)
- 4) women artists that have been collected by NYC art museums over the past 10 years and national and international comparisons
- 5) artworks in NYC art museums by media and gender of artist
- 6) diversity of art attendance and diversity of museum staff in NYC art museums
- 7) diversity of artworks in NYC art museums, looking at who the artists are, and compare across some US art museums and internationally
- 8) diversity of artworks at MoMA
- 9) diversity of artworks in The Met's MCAC
- 10) non-US artists that have been collected by NYC art museums over the past 10 years and national and international comparisons

topics mainly fall into artist gender
and diversity

Feminism

*'Why Have There Been No
Great Women Artists?'*

Institutional framework

Education & patronage

some background
gender to museums to diversity

**3 WHITE WOMEN, 1 WOMAN OF
COLOR AND NO MEN OF COLOR
– OUT OF 71 ARTISTS?**



Dear Margit:

We're thrilled that you have managed to
redefine the still life to exclude women and
artists of color from the practice.

Guerrilla Girls think you should change the
show's title from "Objects of Desire: the
Modern Still Life" to "The Objects of
MOMA's Desire are Still White Males."

Lotsa luck,

GUERRILLA GIRLS

Margit Rowell
The Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53rd Street
New York, NY 10019

Who - and what's the connection with museums

1969 Art Workers Coalition

1981 National Museum of Women in the Arts

1985 The Guerrilla Girls

1998 Title IX Taskforce

A woman with a gorilla head, lying down, holding a bone. The image is a black and white photograph of a woman lying on her side, covered by a red cloth. She is holding a bone in her right hand. Her head is replaced by a gorilla head, which is looking towards the right. The background is a solid yellow color.

Do women have to be naked to get into the Met. Museum?

Less than **5%** of the **artists** in the Modern Art sections are women, but **85%** of the **nudes** are female.

GUERRILLA GIRLS CONSCIENCE OF THE ART WORLD

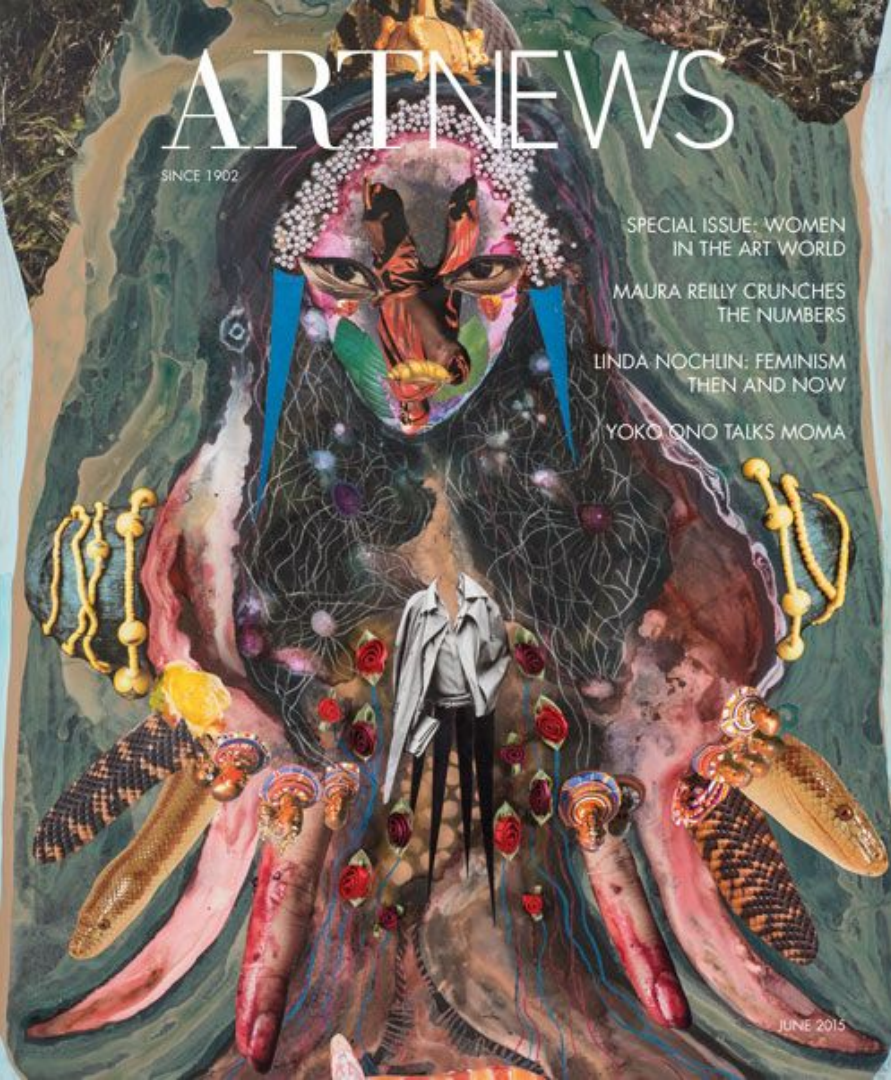
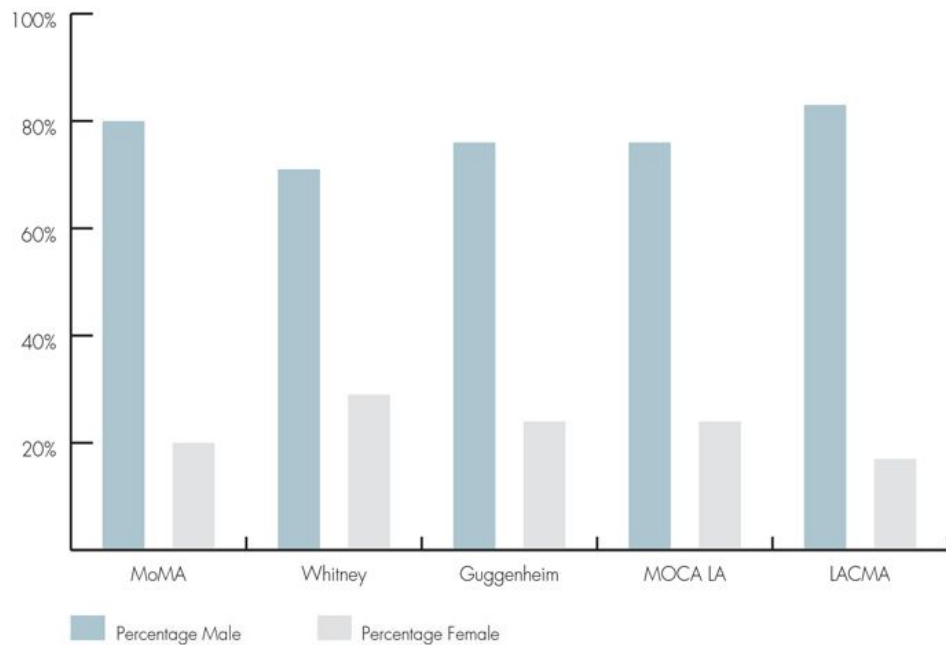


Fig. 1 Percentages of Solo Exhibitions at American Institutions, 2007–2014



July 2015 - Andrew W. Mellon Foundation supported 2015 *Art Museum Staff Demographic Survey* (2nd survey released Jan 2019)

Feb 2017 - American Alliance of Museums (AAM) names Dr. Nicole Ivy as *Director of Inclusion*

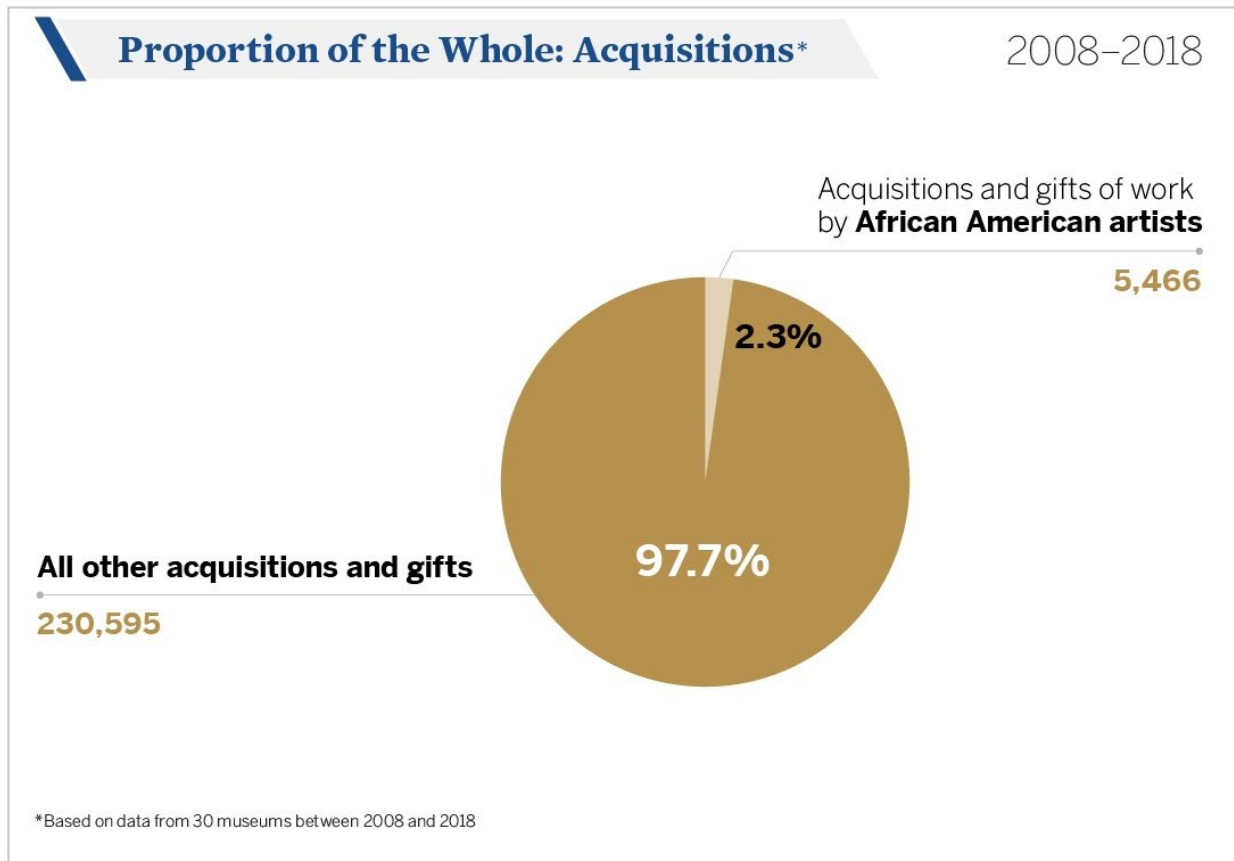
Feb 2017 - Mellon Foundation Fund a Series of Case Studies On Diversity To Guide Art Museum Leadership on Future Inclusivity Efforts - published Sept 2018 Ithaka S+R, *Interrogating Institutional Practices in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Lessons and Recommendations from Case Studies in Eight Art Museums*

July 2017 - *NYC Cultural Plan* - link future funding for museums and arts groups to the diversity of their employees and board members

2018 - AAM report: *Facing Change, Insights from the American Alliance of Museums' Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion Working Group*

Sept 2018, Artnet published a series of articles by Julia Halperin & Charlotte Burns, part of a research project on the *presence of work by African American artists in museums and the market over the past decade*

Dec 2018, peer-review paper: *Diversity of Artists in Major U.S. Museums*, Topaz et al



- 1) what are the percentage of artworks by women compared to artworks by men in NYC art museums over time? (compare nationally/internationally)
- 2) who has made the artworks that make up MoMA's collection by gender and what media are these artworks?
- 3) what are the percentage of artworks by women compared to artworks by men are across 2 collections over time: MoMA and The Met's MCAC?
- 4) what are the gender of artists being collected by NYC art museums over the past 10 years?
- 5) are there correlations between gender and media of the artworks in NYC art museums?

potential research questions -
grouped by gender mostly

- 6) what is the makeup of the audiences and staff are across NYC art museums?
- 7) what are the percentages of artworks by gender and race/ethnicity are in NYC art museums? (compare nationally/internationally)
- 8) what the percentages of artworks by gender and race/ethnicity in MoMA?
- 9) what is the diversity of the artworks in The Met's MCAC and is this changing over time?
- 10) what are the percentages of non-US artists being collected by NYC art museums over the past 10 years?

potential research questions -
grouped by diversity mostly

Do I use what is a unique dataset (The Met MCAC) and do a much deeper dive into this data (how gender cross compares with diversity for instance), or do I go broader across 2+ NYC museums?

One of the most interesting results of working with The Met data was seeing a relation between textile media and artworks by women - do I focus on gender/media or is this likely to be much less applicable in other museums?

Is MoMA too obvious - or with current focus on the museum expansion, is this a good time to use MoMA data?

If I cross-compare Met MCAC (14,350 artworks, Jan 2018) & MoMA, should I likewise limit [departments](#) e.g. say to Drawings and Prints, and Painting and Sculpture?

Do I switch to look at who is going to museums and who is staffing and correlations with what is being collected?

Do I keep gender as the sole focus or look at race/ethnicity?