



ggtakeover.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GUERRILLA GIRLS TWIN CITIES TAKEOVER ANNOUNCED FOR 2016



Photo by Gene Pittman, courtesy Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, September 18 2015—In celebration of the Guerrilla Girls' 30th anniversary as an activist art collective, several Twin Cities arts and cultural organizations are thrilled to announce the [Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover](http://ggtakeover.com) in 2016. The first project of its kind for the Guerrilla Girls and the largest arts collaboration of Twin Cities organizations to date, the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover aims to inspire individual and collective activism by inviting the artist group to create new artwork and connect with the Twin Cities through youth engagement and community-wide events. The public moments of the project will be the launch in **January 2016**, followed by the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover—a multisite, citywide festival—for one week in **February and March 2016**.

"We're super psyched to be coming to the Twin Cities in 2016 for lots of art, performances, workshops, exhibitions and activism," said the Guerrilla Girls. "What an incredible opportunity to work closely with so many arts organizations and youth groups across the community to come up with creative strategies to promote human rights everywhere, from Minneapolis/St. Paul to Syria, Baltimore to Congo, Silicon Valley to Mumbai!"

Organizations spearheading the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover include Hennepin Theatre Trust, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis Institute of Art, St. Catherine University Department of Art and Art History, Walker Art Center, and Weisman Art Museum. Additional organizations include Altered Esthetics, Artistry, Bryant Lake Bowl, Carleton College, Christensen Gallery at Augsburg College, Concordia University Gallery, Gamut Gallery, Highpoint Center for Printmaking, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Instinct Gallery, Intermedia Arts, Juxtaposition Arts, Minnesota Museum of American Art, Public



ggtakeover.com

Functionary, Soo Visual Arts Center, St. Olaf College, The Soap Factory, Third Place Gallery, and Waiting Room.

Over the next several months, the Guerrilla Girls will visit the Twin Cities and work with local youth groups through workshops and classroom visits at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and St. Catherine University Department of Art and Art History to form the basis of the takeover and inspire a new generation of art activism. They will also create a newly commissioned work specific and responsive to the Twin Cities that will be presented in multiple venues.

THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A WOMAN ARTIST:

Working without the pressure of success
Not having to be in shows with men
Having an escape from the art world in your 4 free-lance jobs
Knowing your career might pick up after you're eighty
Being reassured that whatever kind of art you make it will be labeled feminine
Not being stuck in a tenured teaching position
Seeing your ideas live on in the work of others
Having the opportunity to choose between career and motherhood
Not having to choke on those big cigars or paint in Italian suits
Having more time to work when your mate dumps you for someone younger
Being included in revised versions of art history
Not having to undergo the embarrassment of being called a genius
Getting your picture in the art magazines wearing a gorilla suit

A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE FROM **GUERRILLA GIRLS** COINCIDENCE OF THE ART WORLD



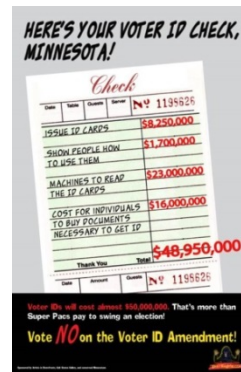
The Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover will kick off **January 21, 2016** with exhibition openings and free youth-oriented events at the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, and Walker Art Center. The Minneapolis Institute of Art will present a *ReMix* of the permanent collection organized by the Guerrilla Girls; the Minneapolis College of Art and Design will present student work created in collaboration with the Guerrilla Girls and *Stepping Back, Looking Forward: Honoring Feminist Vision*, a group exhibition organized by the Minnesota Chapter of the Women's Caucus for Art; and the Walker Art Center will install a selection of the Guerrilla Girls' recently acquired poster archive in the exhibition *Art at the Center: 75 Years of Walker Collections*.

The Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover from **February 29 - March 6, 2016** will unveil the newly commissioned Guerrilla Girls work on Hennepin Avenue in the downtown Minneapolis Cultural District and other locations to be announced, along with new Made Here storefronts created in collaboration with local youth groups. Public panels and discussions with the Guerrilla Girls will take place at the



ggtakeover.com

Weisman Art Museum and the State Theatre. Dozens of related exhibitions and events will also take place at Highpoint Center for Printmaking, Instinct Gallery, Juxtaposition Arts, and Minnesota Museum of American Art, among many others.



ABOUT THE GUERRILLA GIRLS

Formed in 1985, the Guerrilla Girls are a group of anonymous female artists who produce posters, stickers, books, printed projects, and actions that expose sexism and racism in politics, the art world, and the culture at large. The group's members protect their individual identities by wearing gorilla masks during public appearances, and by adopting the names of deceased famous female figures such as Edmondia Lewis, Zubeida Agha, and Frida Kahlo. Because of their anonymity, it is never clear exactly how many members comprise the group, but they have always remained a fairly small collective.

A catalyst for the group's formation was the 1984 Museum of Modern Art, New York (MoMA) exhibition *International Survey of Painting and Sculpture*, which included the work of 169 artists with less than 10% women artists and even fewer artists of color. The Guerrilla Girls dubbed themselves the "conscience of the art world," and in 1985 they began a poster campaign that targeted museums, dealers, curators, critics, and artists whom they felt were responsible for the exclusion of women and artists of color from mainstream exhibitions.

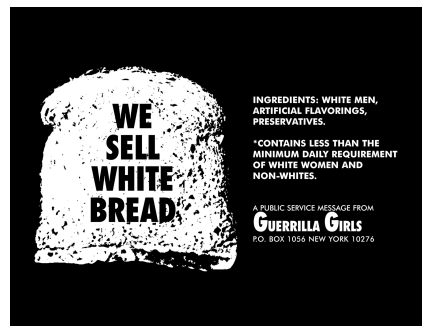
Like the artists Barbara Kruger and Jenny Holzer, the Guerrilla Girls appropriated the visual language of advertising to convey their messages in a quick and accessible manner. Their designs combined bold



ggtakeover.com

block text with lists and statistics compiled from art magazines and museum reports. The Guerrilla Girls use humor to convey information, provoke discussion, and show that feminists can be funny, and they also wear gorilla masks to this end. They embrace a populist approach to art production and exchange, making many small exchanges of books, posters, talks, and workshops with many individuals, producing their artwork in quantity to reach a broad audience.

The Guerrilla Girls have exhibited widely across the world. In 2005 they created a large-scale installation for the Venice Biennale, and they have been the focus of two major recent exhibitions: one in Chicago in 2012, and another at the Guggenheim in Bilbao the following year. Their work is held in the collections of several institutions that they have critiqued over the years, including MoMA and the Walker Art Center, in addition to the Tate, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Brooklyn Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Getty Institute.



WHAT DO THESE ARTISTS HAVE IN COMMON?

Arman	Kath Haring	Glenn Oldenburg
Jean-Michel Basquiat	Bryan Hunt	Philip Pearlstein
James Casebere	Patrick Ireland	Robert Rauschenberg
John Chamberlain	Nell Jenney	David Salle
Sandro Chia	Bill Jensen	Lucas Samaras
Francesco Clemente	Donald Judd	Peter Saul
Chuck Close	Alex Katz	Kenny Scharf
Tony Craig	Anselm Kiefer	Julian Schnabel
Enzo Cucchi	Joseph Kosuth	Richard Serra
Eric Fischl	Roy Lichtenstein	Mark di Suvero
Joel Fisher	Walter De Maria	Mark Tansey
Don Flavin	Robert Morris	George Tooker
Future 2000	Bruce Nauman	David True
Ron Gorchov	Richard Nones	Peter Voulkos

THEY ALLOW THEIR WORK TO BE SHOWN IN GALLERIES THAT SHOW NO MORE THAN 10% WOMEN ARTISTS OR NONE AT ALL.

SOURCE: ART IN AMERICA WINTER 1984-5

A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE FROM GUERRILLA GIRLS
FOUNDER/CO-EDITORS OF THE ART WORLD

MEDIA CONTACTS

Hennepin Theatre Trust, Minneapolis

Karen Nelson

karen.nelson@hennepintheatretrust.org, 612-455-9526

Minneapolis College of Art and Design

Kerry Morgan

kmorgan@mcad.edu, 612-874-3667



ggtakeover.com

Ann Benrud

abenrud@mcad.edu, 612-874-3793

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Anne-Marie Wagener

awagener@artsmia.org, 612-870-3280

St. Catherine University, St. Paul

Patricia Olson

plolson@stkate.edu, 651-690-6642

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

Meredith Kessler

meredith.kessler@walkerart.org, 612-375-7651

Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis

Erin Lauderman

elauderm@umn.edu, 612-625-9685