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The Women's Caucus for Art announces the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Honorees and plans for the celebration on Saturday, February 19, 2022 at the Hilton Chicago Midtown, 720 S Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL.

The Women's Caucus for Art (WCA) is pleased to announce the recipients for the 2022 WCA Lifetime Achievement (LTA) Awards: **Lynda Benglis, Beate Minkovski, Gladys Nilsson, Lorraine O'Grady, and Linda Vallejo**. The recipient for the President's Award for Art & Activism is **Sabrina Nelson**, and the new WCA Emerging Artist Award will be awarded to **Ashley January**.

The celebration kicks off on the evening of Saturday, February 19 with a cocktail reception featuring a cash bar and the opportunity to mingle with other guests from 4:30– 5:30 pm. The Awards ceremony celebrating the life and work of these extraordinary women in the arts takes place from 5:30–7:30 pm and is free and open to the public. Doors for the awards ceremony will open to the general public beginning at 5:15 pm. A ticketed gala reception will take place from 7:30–9:30 pm. Guests purchasing gala tickets will be treated to food stations, butlered treats, an open bar, and the opportunity to meet and congratulate the awardees.

To purchase gala tickets: <https://www.jotform.com/212555671092052>

The annual Women's Caucus for Art Lifetime Achievement Awards are held during the WCA and College Art Association (CAA) conferences. This year, the LTA awards take on even more significance as it is the 50th anniversary of WCA. For more information on the event or to purchase tickets visit www.nationalwca.org

The Women's Caucus for Art is a national member organization with chapters throughout the United States. It is unique in its multidisciplinary, multicultural membership of artists, art historians, students, educators, and museum professionals. The mission of the Women's Caucus for Art is to create community through art, education, and social activism. WCA is committed to recognizing the contribution of women in the arts; providing women with leadership opportunities and professional development; expanding networking and exhibition opportunities for women; supporting local, national and global art activism; and advocating for equity in the arts for all.

About the Awards

The WCA Lifetime Achievement Awards were first presented in 1979 in President Jimmy Carter's Oval Office to Isabel Bishop, Selma Burke, Alice Neel, Louise Nevelson, and Georgia O'Keeffe. The Awards were the first awards recognizing the contribution of women to the arts and their profound effect on society. Today, the Lifetime Achievement Awards continue to honor women, their work, their vision, and their commitment. Recent honorees have represented the full range of distinguished achievement in the visual arts professions from Charlene Teters to Kiki Smith to Carolee Schneemann to Renee Stout. This year's honorees are no exception, with considerable accomplishment, achievement, and contributions to the visual arts represented by their professional efforts. For more information on past honorees visit: nationalwca.org/past-honorees

In addition to the Lifetime Achievement Awards, the President's Art & Activism Award is presented each year to emerging or mid-career women whose life and work exemplifies WCA's mission of creating community through art, education, and social activism. The award anticipates a lifetime of achievement for its recipients. WCA added a new WCA Emerging Artist Award in 2022 to recognize younger artists who are breaking boundaries in their own right.

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2022 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients



Lorraine O'Grady (b. 1934) is a conceptual artist and cultural critic whose work over four decades has employed the diptych, or at least the diptych idea, as its primary form. While she has consistently addressed issues of diaspora, hybridity and black female subjectivity and has emphasized the formative roles these have played in the history of modernism, O'Grady also uses the diptych's "both/and thinking" to frame her themes as symptoms of a larger problematic, that of the divisive and hierarchical either/or categories underpinning Western philosophy.

In O'Grady's works across various genres including text, photo-installation, video and performance, multiple emotions and ideas coexist. While O'Grady's diptychs are sometimes explicit, with two images side by side, at other times they are implicit, as when two types of hair—silk and tumbleweed, videotaped on the same scalp at different hours of the same day—alternate and interact to create permeating worlds. The goal of her diptychs is not to bring about a mythic "reconciliation of opposites," but rather to enable or even force a conversation between dissimilars long enough to induce

familiarity. For O'Grady, the diptych helps to image the kind of "both/and" or "miscegenated" thinking that may be needed to counter and destabilize the West's either/or binary of "winners or losers," one that is continuously birthing supremacies, from the intimate to the political, of which white supremacy may be only the most all-inclusive.

O'Grady's art works have been acquired by, among other institutions, the Art Institute of Chicago, IL; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; The Museum of Modern Art, NY; Tate Modern, London, UK; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY. In 2021, Brooklyn Museum, NY organized a retrospective of her work, *Lorraine O'Grady: Both/And*.

Photo credit: *Lorraine O'Grady, 2018*. Photo by Ross Collab. Courtesy Alexander Gray Associates, New York.