

NEWS

Week in Review: Marciano Art Foundation Closes After Union Effort, Dread Scott Stages Slave Rebellion Reenactment

Also, Nigeria's first entry into the Academy Awards was disqualified for containing too much English dialogue, goats helped save the Reagan Library from wildfire, and more.

Jasmine Weber November 8, 2019



Costumes for the Slave Rebellion Reenactment were designed by Alison L. Parker (all images courtesy of the Slave Rebellion Reenactment)

Week in Review is a weekly collection of news, developments, and stirrings in the art world. [Subscribe](#) to receive these posts as a weekly newsletter.

Citing low attendance, the Marciano Art Foundation in Los Angeles [announced its decision to close indefinitely](#). The closure came just days after 60

employees publicly announced intentions to unionize.

In 1811, hundreds of enslaved people marched through Louisiana chanting “freedom or death.” While their oft-forgotten journey ended in massacre, artist Dread Scott spent six years organizing a reenactment to celebrate the legacy of their courage, to be staged Friday, November 8 and Saturday, November 9. It promises to be an [empowering take on the historical reenactment trope](#).

The Feminist Art Coalition has coordinated with museums nationwide to display feminist art in anticipation of the 2020 election. The project seeks to slate a fall season of intensive cross-institutional programming centered around the theme of “feminism” in its most expansive definition.



The Killing Fields of Karachi (courtesy of Adeela Suleman)

Adeela Suleman’s *The Killing Fields of Karachi* was installed for the 2019 Karachi Biennale, known for being the biggest public art exhibition in Pakistan. The exhibit memorialized 444 people allegedly killed by police officer Rao Anwar. Within two hours of its public opening, Suleman’s exhibit was shut down by men who claimed to be from state intelligence, and the lower hall housing the accompanying short documentary film was indefinitely sealed.

Some of the artists participating in MoMA PS1’s exhibition *Theater of Operations: The Gulf Wars, 1991–2011* were denied travel visas to the US, while others had no chance of attending the exhibition’s opening because of Trump’s travel ban or their asylum status in other countries.

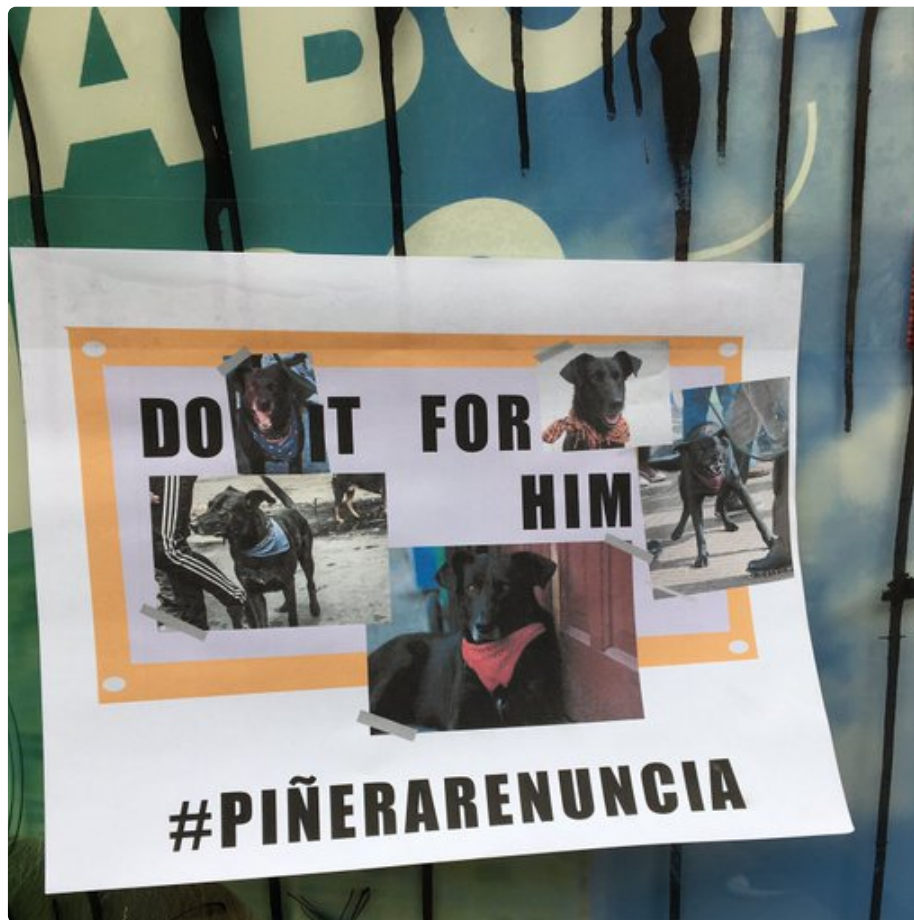
Nigeria’s first entry into the Academy Awards, Genevieve Nnaji’s *Lionheart*, was disqualified from competing in the newly renamed category of Best International Feature Film, formerly known as the Best Foreign Language Film. The film’s mostly English dialogue did not meet the section’s criteria because submitted films need to mostly be in a language other than English to qualify.

The art community in Poland is up in arms after an unprecedented decision by the Ministry of Culture to nominate a new director for the Center for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle (CCA) in Warsaw, without the customary open call process. The Ministry nominated Piotr Bernatowicz, who is currently a public sector employee working in Poznan and has been accused of platforming artworks that target social groups, including the exhibiting of misogynistic and anti-Semitic artworks.



Ana
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Negro matapacos ❤️



73 4:06 PM - Oct 25, 2019

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The recent uprising in Chile is full of references to the beloved dog Negro Matapacos, which accompanied protestors for many years and is known for his tendency to attack cops.

After a year of tense negotiations, residents of the historic Santa Fe Art Colony now have city council on their side. In October, the city passed two new measures beefing up renters' protections, and the artists facing displacement are taking full advantage of the law.

Kyoto tourists face a fine for unauthorized photos of geisha. The ban, implemented in the wake of complaints by the district's home and business owners, includes a fine of up to 10,000 yen (~\$91.90), and prohibits photo-taking on private roads.



Coco Fusco, "Tin Man of the Twenty-First Century" (2018), Produced in collaboration with Chico MacMurtrie (Courtesy Tettero, Anren Biennale 2019) © Coco Fusco/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York)

Contentious relations between the United States and China underscore the display of [Coco Fusco's "Tin Man of the Twenty-First Century"](#) at the Anren Biennale in China's Sichuan province. The artist has cast Trump as a heartless Tin Man, desperately in need of oil.

Nibbles, Selena Goatmez, and Vincent van Goat were among the animals that [helped clear scrub surrounding the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library](#) before the recent California wildfires broke out. In May, a herd of 500 goats created a critical fire break that enabled firefighters to hold at bay the wildfires that threatened the library.



The Lovers (© Cartamundi, Turnhout Belgium © Salvador Dalí, Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí, VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2019)

In the early 1970s, Surrealist Salvador Dalí [ventured into the occult with a custom deck of tarot cards](#) featuring himself and his wife, Gala, as mystical figures. The deck was originally created for the 1973 James Bond film *Live and Let Die*, starring Roger Moore and Jane Seymour, but it never appeared in the picture.

Researchers from the National Autonomous University of Mexico and Brown University [studied the defining characteristics of Jackson Pollock's "drip" painting techniques](#), which may

help authenticate his action paintings.

A [Swann Galleries](#) sale of Old Master Through Modern Prints hit over \$398,000 in sales. Topping the lots were works by **Rembrandt van Rijn**, including an etching of "Pieter Haaring" (1655), which went for \$81,250, and "A Beggar Seated on a Bank" (1630), which went for \$60,000. An etching by Paul Klee, "Der Held mit dem Flügel-Inv. 2." (1905), hit second place in the lots, selling for \$75,000.



Rembrandt van Rijn "A Beggar Seated on a Bank" (1630) (image courtesy Swann Galleries)

This and other notable sales and acquisitions are chronicled in our latest [Transactions](#) story.

Also, check out Hyperallergic's lists of must-see, fun, and insightful art events in [New York](#) and [Los Angeles](#) this fall.

This Week in the Art World

Harry Blain and Graham Southern, cofounders of **Blain Southern Gallery**, have cut ties as the gallery is restructured. | [The Art Newspaper](#)

Tenley Bick was named the second annual scholar-in-residence at the **Magazzino Italian Art Foundation**, and **Melissa Dunn** was appointed as the institution's inaugural research center coordinator. | via email announcement

Connie Butler will receive the 2020 **Audrey Irmes Award for Curatorial Excellence**. | via email announcement

Chakaia Booker is now represented by **Mark Borghi**. | via email announcement

The fifth annual **Brooklyn Public Library Literary Prize** was awarded to **Miriam Toews** for *Women Talking* (Fiction and Poetry Prize) and **Tressie McMillan Cottom** for *Thick: And Other Essays* (Nonfiction Prize). | via email announcement

Laura Dern, David Dolby, Sidonie Seydoux Dumas, Mark Johnson, Miky Lee, Katherine Oliver, and David Rubin have joined the **Academy Museum of Motion Picture's** board of trustees. | [Oscars](#)

FRONT, Cleveland's triennial for contemporary art, has hired Sarah Spinner Liska as deputy director, Meghana Karnik as associate curator, and Lo Smith as curatorial assistant. | via email announcement

The **Garage Museum of Contemporary Art** in Moscow has hired **Beatrix Ruf** to work in a "senior capacity on strategy and development." | [artnet News](#)

Elisa Glazer was named external affairs and audience engagement officer, and **Kate Haw** was named officer of collections, exhibitions, and programs at the **National Gallery**. | [Washington Post](#)

Jan Harrison is the first recipient of the **New York Foundation for the Arts's** Recharge Foundation Fellowship for New Surrealist Art. | via email announcement

Agnieszka Kurant will be awarded the **third Frontier Art Prize**. | via email announcement

Pat Martin was awarded the **2019 Taylor Wessing Prize**. | [Guardian](#)

RJ Messineo is now represented by **Morán Morán**. | via email announcement

Lori Specter was appointed **Phillips's** regional director for Switzerland. | [ARTnews](#)

Obituaries

Al Burton (1928–2019), television producer and executive | [Variety](#)

William B. Branch (1927–2019), playwright | [Washington Post](#)

Marya Columbia (1956–2019), violinist who played for 9/11 rescue workers in the days following the attack | [New School](#)

Ann Crumb (1950–2019), actress | [New York Times](#)

Sally Dixon (1932–2019), arts administrator and curator | [ARTnews](#)

Ernest J. Gaines (1933–2019), author | [NPR](#)

Ray Jenkins (1930–2019), journalist and editor | [NYT](#)

Marie Laforêt (1939–2019), singer and actress | [Boston Globe](#)

Walter Mercado (1932–2019), astrologer, actor, dancer, and writer | [Miami Herald](#)

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