CATALOGUE

TITLE: Four Generations: The Joyner/Giuffrida Collection of Abstract Art

SUMMARY: The Joyner/Giuffrida Collection of Abstract Art is widely recognized as one of the most significant collections of modern and contemporary work by African diaspora and African artists. The new Four Generations catalogue draws upon the collection's unparalleled holdings to explore the critical contributions made by black artists to the evolution of visual art in the 20th and 21st centuries. The expanded catalogue features works by 99 artists, including 24 added since the 2016 edition.

Five scholarly essays provide touchstones for the unifying themes of the collection, and provide historical background on the innovations, communities, and questions that have driven the development of African American and African art. A new text by Katy Siegel, BMA Senior Research and Programming Curator and Thaw Chair at Stony Brook University, considers the evolving nature of abstraction. It joins a crucial look at contemporary art and practice by the book's editor, Courtney J. Martin, Director of Yale Center for British Art, as well as essays that explore the pioneering achievements of Norman Lewis, black abstraction in the 1960s and 1970s, and the reception of contemporary African art after 1989.

Six new short essays are added to the original edition to punctuate each section with texts and interviews on single artists such as Firelei Baez, Kevin Beasley, Theaster Gates, Jennie C. Jones, Kemang Wa Lehulere, Glenn Ligon, Julie Mehretu, Lorna Simpson, Clifford Owens, Hank Willis Thomas, Kara Walker, Jack Whitten, Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, and many others.

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