

Shah Garg Foundation

Making Their Mark Curated by Cecilia Alemani

November 2, 2023 - March 23, 2024
548 West 22nd Street, New York



Charline von Heyl, *Plato's Pharmacy*, 2015. Acrylic on linen. 62 × 60 in. (157.5 × 152.4 cm)
© Charline von Heyl; courtesy the artist and Petzel, New York. Photo by Ian Reeves.

(New York, NY – September 5, 2023) – The Shah Garg Foundation is pleased to present *Making Their Mark*, a major exhibition showcasing the works of more than 80 of the most significant women artists from the last eight decades. Curated by Cecilia Alemani, Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art and Curator of the 59th International Art Exhibition at the Venice Biennale, the exhibition marks the first public viewing of the Shah Garg Collection: a groundbreaking body of work by women collected by Komal Shah and her husband Gaurav Garg.

Making Their Mark includes historic and contemporary artworks by Jennifer Bartlett, Lynda Benglis, Firelei Báez, Cecily Brown, Judy Chicago, Sonia Gomes, Sheila Hicks, Jacqueline Humphries, Mary Heilmann, Charline von Heyl, Joan Mitchell, Julie Mehretu, Elizabeth Murray, Howardena Pindell, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Joan Semmel, Joan Snyder, Amy

Sillman, Mary Weatherford, and Anicka Yi, among many others. The exhibition will be on view at 548 West 22nd Street, the historic former home of Dia Chelsea, from November 2, 2023, through March 23, 2024. It will be free and open to the public.

Making Their Mark champions the lives and work of women artists, bringing into vibrant relief their intergenerational relationships, formal and material breakthroughs, and historical impact. Through drawings, mixed media works, paintings, sculptures, and textile

works, the artists of *Making Their Mark* rechart art history through their singular, iconic practices.



Importantly, *Making Their Mark* introduces a broader audience to the mission of the Shah Garg Foundation, which champions the work of women artists, from the modern era through the present day. Not only does this encourage viewers to expand their perspectives, but it also works to remedy the imbalances facing marginalized artists, helping arts institutions envision and enact a more equitable society. The Shah Garg Foundation is committed to expediting this work, with *Making Their Mark* introducing its curatorial vision to the public for the first time.

Following the New York exhibition, *Making Their Mark* will be presented at the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (October 2024) and the Kemper Art Museum in St. Louis (September 2025).

This exhibition follows the release of “[Making Their Mark: Art by Women in the Shah Garg Collection](#),” published in May 2023. Co-edited by Mark Godfrey and Katy Siegel, the book explores the bold vision and vast range of achievements of women artists in the Shah Garg Collection.

Image Caption: Emma Amos, *Star*, 1982. Acrylic, machine--made synthetic fabric, and handwoven synthetic fabric on canvas. 76½ × 54⅞ in. (194.3 × 137.5 cm). © 2022 Emma Amos/Licensed by VAGA at Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY. Photo by Ian Reeves.

Artists List (84)

Etel Adnan
Emma Amos
Helène Aylon
Jo Baer
Firelei Báez
Rina Banerjee
Jennifer Bartlett
Lynda Benglis
Merikokeb Berhanu
Carol Bove
Andrea Bowers
Cecily Brown
Rosemarie Castoro
Barbara Chase-Riboud
Judy Chicago
Mary Corse
Olga de Amaral
Aria Dean
Jadé Fadojutimi
Freedom Quilting Bee
Sonia Gomes
Jenna Gribbon
Mary Grigoriadis
Françoise Grossen
Trude Guermonprez
Marcia Hafif
Harmony Hammond
Zarina Hashmi
Mary Heilmann
Sheila Hicks
Jenny Holzer
Sheree Hovsepian
Jacqueline Humphries
Suzanne Jackson
Virginia Jaramillo
Rachel Jones
Allison Katz
Jutta Koether
Maria Lassnig
Simone Leigh
Sherrie Levine
Tau Lewis
Julie Mehretu
Joan Mitchell
Carrie Moyer
Elizabeth Murray
Senga Nengudi
Magdalene Odundo
Laura Owens
Helen Pashgian
Qunnie Pettway
Naudline Pierre
Howardena Pindell
Christina Quarles
Faith Ringgold
Veronica Ryan
Pinaree Sanpitak
Miriam Schapiro
Dana Schutz
Elizabeth Talford Scott
Joyce Scott
Judith Scott
Kay Sekimachi
Tschabalala Self
Joan Semmel
Amy Sillman
Lorna Simpson
Rose B. Simpson
Jaune Quick-to-See Smith
Joan Snyder
Janet Sobel
Pat Steir
Sarah Sze
Toshiko Takaezu
Lenore Tawney
Anne Truitt
Andra Ursuța
Charline von Heyl
Kay WalkingStick
Marie Watt
Mary Weatherford
Anicka Yi
Lynette Yiadom-Boakye
Portia Zvavahera

Closing Statistics :

Attendance:

Over 50,000 visitors over 19 weeks.

Programming

Artist Talks: (300-450 people at each talk)

- 1. *Reinventing Abstraction – Nov 27, 2023***
 - a. Artists: Aria Dean, Jutta Koether, and Amy Sillman
 - b. Moderator: Michelle Kuo, Chief Curator at large, Publisher, MoMA NY

- 2. *Big Time: On Monumentality and Memory in Contemporary Art – Dec 12, 2023***
 - a. Artists: Howardena Pindell, Firelei Baez, Tschabalala Self
 - b. Moderator: Glenn Adamson

- 3. *Disobedient Bodies – Jan 25, 2024***
 - a. Artists: Joan Semmel, Cecily Brown, Jenna Gribbon
 - b. Moderator: Connie Butler, Director MoMA PS1

- 4. *Cartographies of Time – Feb 22, 2024***
 - a. Artists: Sarah Sze, Lorna Simpson
 - b. Moderator: Thelma Golden, Director Studio Museum in Harlem

- 5. *From Form to Power – Mar 11, 2024***
 - a. Artists: Andrea Bowers, Rina Banerjee, Rose Simpson
 - b. Moderator: Jasmine Wahi, Founder, Project for Empty Space

Upcoming Programming

In Their Voices:

Reflections by artists in Making Their Mark

Thursday, March 21, 6:30—7:30 pm

1. Etel Adnan read by Tasneem Sarkez
2. Harmony Hammond read by Ksenia M. Soboleva
3. Faith Ringgold read by Kandis Williams
4. Anne Truitt read by Sarah Blakley-Cartwright

Community Engagement & Outreach

New York City Public Schools:

- The Foundation welcomed over 500 K-12 students and 125 teachers to the exhibition.
- Students have made artwork based on MTM exhibition and book
- The Shah Garg Foundation donated over 100 books to the teachers as a teaching aide.
- The project culminated with ***Making Their Mark: The Next Generation***, an exhibition within the exhibition, on view to the public from March 18 - March 23rd.
- A **celebration** for the students, teachers, and their families will take place on March 23rd.

(Press release attached)

Guided Tours and Visits:

1. 92NY (formerly 92nd Street Y)
2. Art Muse
3. Art21
4. Artnet
5. ArtTable Washington University in St. Louis
6. Barnard College
7. BMCC CUNY
8. Brooklyn College
9. Croton-Harmon High School Women's Empowerment Club
10. Feminist Camp
11. Foundation for Contemporary Arts
12. Harvard Club of New York
13. High Line Art
14. Independent Curators International (ICI)
15. Lexus
16. Lower East Side Girls Club x Art Noir
17. LVMH
18. Museum of Modern Art
19. NADA
20. Nelson-Atkins Kansas City Museum Visit
21. New Museum
22. New York University
23. New York Women's Foundation & Women of Culture
24. POWArts
25. School of Visual Arts
26. Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture

27. Sotheby's
28. Stanford Alumni
29. Storm King
30. Studio Museum in Harlem
31. Triple Canopy
32. UBS Art Advisory
33. Women in Culture
34. Yale

Visitors of Note:

Gwyneth Paltrow, Maria Grazia Chiuri (Creative Director, Dior), Glenn Lowry, Scott Rothkopf, Lisa Phillips, Chris Bedford, Annie Philbin, Naomi Beckwith, Thelma Golden, Kym Pinder, Claire Danes, Padma Lakshmi, Daniel Rosebery (Creative Director, Schiaparelli), Laura Kim and Fernando Garcia (Creative Directors, Oscar de la Renta), over 45 artists from the show...

Notes to Editors

About The Shah Garg Foundation

The Shah Garg Foundation supports scholarship and public engagement highlighting the achievements and innovations of women artists. Through a wide range of projects and partnerships with educational institutions, arts organizations, and arts leaders, the Foundation works to bring greater recognition to art by women and to rectify the underrepresentation of women in public collections, exhibitions, and art historical narratives. The Foundation offers strategic financial and programmatic support in service to its vision to achieve parity for women artists within the arts ecosystem. shahgargfoundation.org

About Cecilia Alemani

Cecilia Alemani is an Italian curator based in New York. Since 2011, she has been the Donald R. Mullen, Jr Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, the public art program presented by the High Line in New York. In 2022, she curated *The Milk of Dreams*, the 59th International Art Exhibition at La Biennale di Venezia. In 2018, Alemani served as Artistic Director of the inaugural edition of Art Basel Cities: Buenos Aires. In 2017, she curated the Italian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale.

About Komal Shah and Gaurav Garg

Originally from Ahmedabad, India, Komal Shah migrated to the US in 1991 to study computer science in California. After completing her Masters at Stanford, she obtained an MBA from the Haas School of Business at Berkeley, eventually holding positions in the executive suites of Oracle, Netscape, and Yahoo. In 2008, Shah left the tech industry to focus on philanthropic pursuits. She then began developing the Shah Garg Collection with her husband and tech entrepreneur Gaurav Garg, solidifying a vision for the collection's emphasis on women artists in 2014. Today, they are focused on amplifying the voices of women artists and artists of color through the Shah Garg Foundation.