

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Manuel Venegas

mvenegas@mcachicago.org

Saadia Pervaiz

sypervaiz@mcachicago.org



Fred Lonidier, *29 Arrests*, 1972/2008. Thirty photographs with texts on panel; framed: 30 3/8 × 39 5/16 in. (77.2 × 99.9 cm). Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Restricted gift of The Buddy Taub Foundation, 2014.51. Photo: Nathan Keay, © MCA Chicago.

Multimedia

material: https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/05skxdk4y49mt6gckdlnf/AEQ_TE1D_pAu9mJEDvHH_kM?rlkey=it055li85idhnqufdq66md0p4&st=jc29qmkb&dl=0

MCA Chicago to open *From the Center: Looking at Lucy Lippard*, an exhibition focused on interdisciplinary scholar's work, in August 2026

CHICAGO—The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (MCA) is excited to announce the upcoming exhibition *From the Center: Looking at Lucy*

Lippard, opening on August 26, 2026, and running through July 11, 2027. Occupying the three-story stairwell galleries in the MCA, the exhibition is inspired by the wide impact of the research, writings, activism, and exhibitions of renowned art historian, critic, and curator Lucy Lippard (b. 1937, New York, NY; lives in Galisteo, NM), through the lens of the MCA's permanent collection.

Over the past six decades, Lippard's multidisciplinary career has been foundational to modern and contemporary art. From the histories of Conceptual, feminist, Minimalist, and Land art practices of the 1960s and 1970s to the representation of artists of color in the Western canon, Lippard's work is widely appreciated for its capacity to reach beyond the confines of art history. Her foundational scholarship brings a critical eye to the intersection of art and activism, as well as placemaking for and by artists, while grappling with social issues through the lens of visual art and art criticism.

From the Center: Looking at Lucy Lippard will be split into three sections: "Form & Feminism;" "The Art Worker as Activist;" and "Site, Land, Place." "Form & Feminism" will consider Lippard's distinctive feminist perspective, which she articulated through groundbreaking writing and curatorial practice focused on Minimalism and Conceptualism. Her prolific output advocating for women artists ranged from exhibitions like *Twenty-Six Contemporary Women Artists* (1971); the publishing of feminist journal *Heresies: A Feminist Publication on Art and Politics*, which ran from 1977 to 1993; and books such as *From the Center: Feminist Essays on Women's Art* (1976). The section "The Art Worker as Activist" contends with how artists are mobilized as activists alongside and as part of their artistic practices or engage with histories of activism. Throughout her career Lippard participated in or cofounded several artist-activist groups such as the Art Workers Coalition and the Ad Hoc Women's Art Committee. She has been a committed advocate of activism and coalition-building among women artists and artists of color to address exclusion from mainstream institutions and topical social issues. Lastly, "Site, Land, Place" relates to the politics of space, real, imagined, or contested; the land and environment; and the power of placemaking, as influenced by several books by Lippard concerned with these ideas, such as *The Lure of the Local* (1997); *On the Beaten Track: Tourism, Art, and Place* (1999); *Undermining: A Wild Ride through Land Use, Politics, and Art in the Changing West* (2014); and two of her storied *Numbers* exhibitions, *557,087* (1969) and *955,000* (1970), which included several notable Land artists. Cumulatively, these presentations will provide a concise overview of key themes that have driven Lippard's practice throughout her prolific and singular career.

Highlighted in the exhibition are more than 40 artists who have been featured in her scholarly or curatorial practice, as well as those whose work is reflective of themes within Lippard's scholarship and practice. Participating artists include Jo Baer, Andrea Bowers, Robert Colescott, Fred Lonidier, Ana Mendieta, Howardena Pindell, and Adrian Piper, among others. The exhibition will be supplemented by public programs charting Lippard's influence over several generations of artists, art historians, and curators.

From the Center: Looking at Lucy Lippard is organized by Jamillah James, Manilow Senior Curator, with Korina Hernandez, Curatorial Assistant.

SUPPORT

Lead support for *From the Center: Looking at Lucy Lippard* is provided by the Pritzker Traubert Collection Exhibition Fund, Cari and Michael Sacks, and the Zell Family Foundation.

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The MCA's Women Artists Initiative is a philanthropic commitment to further equity across gender lines and promote the work and ideas of women artists.

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ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART CHICAGO

The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The MCA interweaves exhibitions,

performances, collections, and educational programs while providing a place for audiences to contemplate and discuss contemporary art in pursuit of a creative and diverse future. The MCA believes in the values of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA) as a platform to enact structural change. The museum is generously supported by its Board of Trustees; individual and corporate members; private and corporate foundations, including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation; and government agencies. The MCA is a proud member of Museums in the Park and receives major support from the Chicago Park District.

[The MCA is located at 220 E. Chicago Avenue](#) is open 10 am to 5 pm Wednesday to Sunday and Tuesdays from 10 am to 9 pm. Tuesday evenings (5-9 pm) are free for Illinois residents. The museum is closed on Mondays. Admission is free for all youth 18 and under, members of the military and veterans, and MCA members. Free admission for anyone 18 and under is generously provided by the Lefkofsky Free 18 & Under Fund. Find more information about MCA's exhibitions, programs, and special events at mcachicago.org or [312.280.2660](tel:312.280.2660).



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