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Bank of America Lead Sponsor of “Lynda Benglis” tour and exhibition at the New Museum, New York

Bank of America is proud to be the Lead Sponsor of the global exhibition tour and the New Museum, New York presentation of “Lynda Benglis” (February 9 – July 13, 2011). One of America’s most respected and influential female artists, “Lynda Benglis” will showcase over forty years of sculptural works, and will stand as a testament to the enormous scholarly impact Benglis has had on the field of modern and contemporary art, and will mark the first time her a retrospective of her work will be presented to a dramatically expanded public in the United States in more than twenty years. The New Museum’s exhibition will also reflect Benglis’s long relationship with New York City and, more specifically, with the Bowery, where her studio has been located for over forty years.

Bank of America’s support of the New Museum exemplifies our longstanding commitment to New York City’s world-renowned cultural institutions. Building on a long-standing tradition of investing in the communities it serves, we work to make corporate giving something more—leveraging resources, expertise and relationships to support innovative programs that address their needs, uncover opportunities not realized before and broaden access to the arts and culture. We are delighted to be a part of this historic event.

“Bank of America is proud to introduce the pioneering works of contemporary sculptor Lynda Benglis to patrons of the New Museum,” said Rena M. Desisto, Global Arts & Heritage Executive, Bank of America. “Lynda Benglis explores universal subjects such as body and mind using highly original materials. Her thought-provoking pieces will create dialogue and connect people on new levels.”

This exhibition, organized by a consortium of museums in Europe along with the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design will be supplemented by crucial works by Benglis for its New York iteration. *Contraband*, (1969) Benglis’s largest and most significant pour sculpture measuring almost 40 feet will be included, on loan from the Whitney Museum of American Art. Even more significantly, the New Museum exhibition will include *Phantom*, (1971) a room-sized polyurethane sculptural grouping consisting of five enormous reliefs. This work, seen for the first time since it was created for an exhibition at Kansas State University forty years ago, is one of several seminal site-specific ensembles that Benglis made at the time. Known only through photographs, these works have come to be considered the apex of the artist’s early achievements, and it is truly an event of art-historical importance that *Phantom* will be on display.

A 300-page, fully illustrated hardcover monograph accompanies the exhibition. The exhibition is organized by the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, in collaboration with Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven; Le Consortium, Dijon; Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence; and the New Museum.

Bank of America and the Arts

As one of the world’s largest financial institutions and a major supporter of arts and culture, Bank of America has a vested interest and plays a meaningful role in the international dialogue on cultural understanding. As a global company, Bank of America demonstrates its commitment to the arts by supporting such efforts as after-school arts programs, grants to help expand libraries, programs to conserve artistic heritage as well as a campaign to encourage museum attendance. Bank of America’s unique program offers customers free access to more than 120 of the nation’s finest cultural institutions through its acclaimed Museums on Us® program, while Art in our Communities® shares exhibits from the company’s corporate collection with communities across the country through local museum partners. The Bank of America Charitable Foundation also provides philanthropic support to museums, theaters and other arts-related nonprofits to expand their services and offerings to schools and communities. Bank of America partners with more than 6,000 arts institutions world-wide.

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