

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 16, 2018

## Heavy Metal

### ***National Museum of Women in the Arts announces featured artists in the Women to Watch exhibition series***

*Artists explore and expand on the qualities of metal*

**WASHINGTON**—The National Museum of Women in the Arts ([NMWA](http://nmwa.org)) is pleased to announce the artists selected for the upcoming exhibition *Heavy Metal—Women to Watch 2018*, on view June 28–Sept. 16, 2018. Showcasing contemporary artists working in metal, the fifth installment of NMWA's *Women to Watch* exhibition series features up-and-coming or underrepresented artists from the states and countries where the museum has outreach committees. In consultation with contemporary art curators in their respective regions, the committees created shortlists of artists who work with metal—this year's theme. The artists and works for inclusion in the summer exhibition were then selected by NMWA's curatorial team from these submissions.

The featured artists investigate the physical properties and expressive possibilities of metalwork through objects including sculpture, jewelry and conceptual forms. Inspired by NMWA's own collection of silverwork crafted by women in the 18th and 19th centuries, the exhibition seeks to further disrupt the predominantly masculine narrative that surrounds metalworking, while engaging with the traditional distinctions between fine art, design, craft and decorative art, whose definitions are rooted in gender discrimination. The works in *Heavy Metal*—ranging from large-scale installations to small objects intended for personal adornment—are created from iron, steel, bronze, brass, tin, aluminum, copper and pewter.



***Heavy Metal—Women to Watch 2018* Nominating Committees, Selected Artists and Curators:**

**Arkansas**

Selected Artist: Holly Laws

Curators: Matthew Smith, Arkansas Art Center

**California (Southern)**

Selected Artist: Kerianne Quick

Curator: Bobbye Tigerman, Los Angeles County Museum of Art

**California (Northern)**

Selected Artist: Katherine Vetne

Curator: Jenny Gheith, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

**Chile**

Selected Artist: Alejandra Prieto

Curator: Gloria Cortés Aliaga, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes

**Florida**

Selected Artist: Carolina Sardi

Curator: Diana Nawi, Pérez Art Museum

**France**

Selected Artist: Charlotte Charbonnel

Curator: Alicia Knock, Centre Pompidou

**Georgia**

Selected Artist: Lola Brooks

Curator: Sarah Schleuning, High Museum of Art

**Italy**

Selected Artist: Serena Porrati

Curator: Iolanda Ratti, Museo del Novecento

**Greater Kansas City Area**

Selected Artist: Cheryl Eve Acosta

Curator: Barbara O'Brien, Formerly of the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art

**Massachusetts**

Selected Artist: Venetia Dale

Curator: Emily Zilber, editor, *Metalsmith* (Formerly of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston)

**Mid-Atlantic Region**

Selected Artist: Susie Ganch

Curators: Stefanie Fedor, Visual Arts Center of Richmond; Megan Rook-Koepsel, independent curator

**Mississippi**

Selected Artist: Kelsey Wishik

Curator: Pat Pinson, Mary C. O'Keefe Cultural Center

**New Mexico**

Selected Artist: Paula Castillo

Curator: Laura Addison, Museum of International Folk Art

**Greater New York Region**

Selected Artist: Alice Hope

Curators: Shannon Stratton, Museum of Arts and Design

**Ohio**

Selected Artist: Leila Khoury

Curators: Reto Thüring, Cleveland Museum of Art; Matt Distel, The Carnegie in Greater Cincinnati

**Peru**

Selected Artist: Carolina Rieckhof Brommer

Curator: Sharon Lerner, Museo de Arte de Lima

**Spain**

Selected Artist: Blanca Muñoz

Curator: Lucia Ybarra, YGB Art and Factoría Cultural

**Sweden**

Selected Artist: Petronella Eriksson

Curator: Inger Wästberg, independent curator

**Texas**

Selected Artist: Beverly Penn

Curator: Virginia Treanor, National Museum of Women in the Arts

**United Kingdom**

Selected Artist: Rana Begum

Curator: Caroline Douglas, Contemporary Art Society

*Heavy Metal—Women to Watch 2018* is organized by the National Museum of Women in the Arts and generously sponsored by the participating committees in Arkansas, Southern California, Chile,

Florida, France, Georgia, Italy, the Greater Kansas City Area, Massachusetts, the Mid-Atlantic Region, Mississippi, New Mexico, the Greater New York Area, Northern California, Ohio, Peru, Spain, Sweden, Texas, and the United Kingdom. Additional support is provided by the Clara M. Lovett Emerging Artists Fund, the NMWA Advisory Board, and the San Francisco Advocacy for NMWA.

### **Women to Watch**

*Women to Watch* is an exhibition series held every two to three years, developed in conjunction with the museum's national and international outreach committees. NMWA currently has 21 outreach committees with more than 2,000 dedicated members throughout the United States and around the world, and the network continues to expand. The museum's committees play a critical role in bringing NMWA's mission to regional audiences. The committees work with local museum directors and curators, education experts and business leaders to capitalize on their region's artistic, financial, and educational strengths and resources in order to develop meaningful programming and build a bridge between their communities and the museum.

### **National Museum of Women in the Arts**

The National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) is the only major museum in the world solely dedicated to championing women through the arts. With its collections, exhibitions, programs and online content, the museum seeks to inspire dynamic exchanges about art and ideas. NMWA advocates for better representation of women artists and serves as a vital center for thought leadership, community engagement and social change. NMWA addresses the gender imbalance in the presentation of art by bringing to light important women artists of the past while promoting great women artists working today. The collections highlight painting, sculpture, photography, and video by artists including Louise Bourgeois, Mary Cassatt, Judy Chicago, Frida Kahlo, Shirin Neshat, Faith Ringgold, Pipilotti Rist, and Élisabeth Louise Vigée-LeBrun.

NMWA is located at 1250 New York Avenue, NW, in Washington, D.C. It is open Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–5 p.m., and Sun., noon–5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for visitors 65 and over and students, and free for NMWA members and youth 18 and under. Admission is free the first Sunday of each month. For information, call 202-783-5000, visit [nmwa.org](http://nmwa.org), Broad Strokes Blog, Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.

### **Media Contacts:**

Amy Mannarino, 202-783-7373

[amannarino@nmwa.org](mailto:amannarino@nmwa.org)

Stacy Meteer, 202-783-7377

[smeteer@nmwa.org](mailto:smeteer@nmwa.org)

###

### **Image credit lines:**

Alice Hope, Untitled, 2016; Used Budweiser tabs, 72 in. diameter; © Alice Hope; Photo by Jenny Gorman