Dear Friends,

Each year, we have the privilege of calling artists out of the blue to tell them that their peers in the artist community have nominated and selected them to receive a $40,000 unrestricted award from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts (FCA). This year, the calls were especially poignant. In the wake of the election, FCA is deeply committed to continuing its mission of supporting pioneering artists and experimental arts practices.

FCA is pleased to announce the new Dorothea Tanning Award, established in memory of the venerable artist and poet with the partnership of The Destina Foundation, and the recipients of the 2017 Grants to Artists, Merce Cunningham, and Robert Rauschenberg Awards. This year, FCA distributed seventeen awards totaling $680,000 to individual artists through these programs - the largest number of awards in our 54-year history.

Scroll down to learn more.

In 1963, a community of visual artists came together to donate work and support their peers in the performance arts. That tradition continues with FCA's fifteenth benefit exhibition 65 Works Selected by James Welling at David Zwirner through Saturday. We are grateful to the artists, donors, and collectors who have supported the exhibition to date, and invite you to join FCA's commitment to supporting artists by purchasing an artwork.

With best wishes,

Stacy Teenbaum Stark
Executive Director

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THE INAUGURAL DOROTHEA TANNING AWARD

Dorothea Tanning in her home, New York City, 1998. Photo by Peter Ross.

FCA is pleased to announce a $1 million endowment gift from The Destina Foundation to create and sustain a $40,000 annual grant named for the artist and poet Dorothea Tanning. Tanning's fierce independence is embodied in this eponymous award, which will recognize artists like Dorothea herself, whose work stood apart from her milieu and transcended her time. The inaugural Tanning Award will be made to poet Liz Waldner.

Click here to read more in Artforum, and click here to read the press release.

65 WORKS SELECTED BY JAMES WELLING:

EXHIBITION AND SALE TO BENEFIT THE FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS

Judy Pfaff, Untitled, 1993, Mixed media on paper, 20 x 30 inches (sheet); 25 x 35 inches (frame); Signed; Framed. $18,000.

Michelle Segre, Motormutation, 2000, India ink on paper, 11 1/2 x 13 1/2 inches (image); 13 1/2 x 15 1/2 inches (sheet); 14 1/8 x 16 1/4 inches (frame); Framed. $1,800.

Artist James Welling selected the 65 works in this exhibition and sale. Forty-nine works are from FCA's collection of work donated by artists to support FCA's programs, including works from FCA's first benefit exhibition in 1963. Sixteen new works have been contributed by artists this year at Jim's invitation. Several works are still available for sale, including the works above by Judy Pfaff and Michelle Segre, with discounts available on select works. All proceeds benefit FCA's grants for individual artists.

2017 GRANTEES

THE DOROTHEA TANNING AWARD

Liz Waldner

THE MERCE CUNNINGHAM AWARD

Linda Austin

THE ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG AWARD

Jimmie Durham

GRANTS TO ARTISTS, DANCE

Moriah Evans

Kim Brandt

GRANTS TO ARTISTS, MUSIC/SOUND

Gelsey Bell

Chris Corsano

Shelley Hirsch

Thessia Machado

GRANTS TO ARTISTS, PERFORMANCE ART/THEATER

Annie Dorsen

Yuval Sharon

Adrienne Truscott

GRANTS TO ARTISTS, POETRY

Anselm Berrigan

GRANTS TO ARTISTS, VISUAL ARTS

Andrea Fraser

Aki Sasamoto

A.L. Steiner

George Trakas