#### THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART 250 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE LOS ANGELES CA 90012 TELEPHONE 213 621 2766 FAX 213 620 8674



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, December 17, 2015

# MOCA BOARD ELECTS FOUR NEW TRUSTEES: GABRIEL BRENER, MARY KLAUS MARTIN, ADAM SENDER, AND ARTIST LARI PITTMAN

LOS ANGELES—The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (MOCA) announced today that the Board of Trustees has elected four new members: Gabriel Brener, Mary Klaus Martin, Lari Pittman, and Adam Sender.

"Board development is a team effort—an important collaboration between current board members and staff," remarks MOCA Director Philippe Vergne. "I am grateful and proud that MOCA leadership continues to create a board that is reflective of MOCA's programmatic commitments. We are international, we are a group committed to contemporary art and design, and we strive to become a better artist's museum."

# **Gabriel Brener**

Gabriel Brener is chairman and CEO of Brener International Group, LLC, where he determines all major investment decisions. He plays an active role and stays in regular contact with senior management of entities the Brener family controls or in which they have significant minority positions by offering financial, operating, marketing, and structuring advice. Brener manages Brener Sports & Entertainment, LLC, a private investment entity he formed in 2005. The company focuses on sports and entertainment investments targeting the Hispanic market in the United States. Brener Sports & Entertainment holds the Brener family's interests in the Houston Dynamo, Inc. and the Houston Dash. Brener is a director of Hemisphere Media Group, Inc. (NASDAQ "HMTV"), which is the only publicly traded, pure-play U.S. Hispanic TV/cable network and content platform. He has been an avid art collector for the past 20 years.

# **Mary Klaus Martin**

Mary Klaus Martin was appointed to the Cultural Heritage Commission for the City of Los Angeles by Mayor Richard Riordan in 2000 and served seven years and three mayors, half of those years as president. In 2008, the American Institute of Architects presented her with the Good Government Award, honoring her commitment to preserving and protecting the city's cultural and historic landmarks. Following her studies in Switzerland, she earned her BA and master's degrees in Education and French at the University of Southern California. A two-time All-American triathlete, Martin qualified for Team USA, representing the United States and placing third at the inaugural World Champion Triathlon in Avignon, France. After serving as a docent for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, she became a charter founder of The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. She works in support of The Music Center (Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County), The Colleagues, The Los Angeles Public Library, and The Kennedy Center's National Committee for the Performing Arts. Martin founded the Los Angeles apparel company Mary Martin for Rainbow of California. For her efforts in fabric innovation related to the changing role of women's dressing in the workplace, she was honored as one of the Soroptimist's Outstanding Women of the Year Award. She is

### MOCA BOARD ELECTS NEW TRUSTEES: GABRIEL BRENER, MARY KLAUS MARTIN, ADAM SENDER, AND ARTIST LARI PITTMAN Page 2 of 3

an owner of an international aerospace company based in California. Martin, along with her husband, the award-winning architect David C. Martin, have established MADWORKSHOP (MARTIN ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN WORKSHOP), a foundation that endows innovative design students with the opportunity to explore their ideas from inspiration to reality.

### Lari Pittman

Lari Pittman received both a BFA and an MFA from California Institute of the Arts, Valencia. Since 1993, he has held the position of Professor of Fine Arts at the University of California. Los Angeles, Pittman is one of the most influential painters to emerge from Los Angeles in the early 1980s. Deeply rooted in art historical references and with a profound arsenal of painterly techniques and erudition, Pittman deploys paint toward a conceptual end, commenting brilliantly on the world he sees around him. Often inspired by commercial advertising, folk art, pattern art, and decorative traditions, his meticulously layered paintings transform pattern and signage into luxurious scenes fraught with complexity, difference, and desire. Pittman has received many awards, including the Skowhegan Medal (2002); three fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts (1987, 1989, 1993); and the International Association of Art Critics' award for the Best Show in a Commercial Gallery Nationally (2010, 2013). His work has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions, including the Museum of Contemporary Art, St. Louis (2013); Le Consortium, Dijon (2013); Institute of Contemporary Arts, London (1998); Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles (1996); and the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston (1996). He has participated in the Venice Biennale (2003); Documenta X (1997); and four Whitney Biennial exhibitions (1985, 1993, 1995, 1997). A comprehensive monograph of his work was published by Rizzoli in 2011, and a catalogue was published on the occasion of the Museum of Contemporary Art, St. Louis exhibition. He lives and works in Los Angeles.

### **Adam Sender**

Adam Sender is the founder and chief executive officer of Sender Company & Partners, Inc. (SC&P), where he manages the investment decisions for the hedge fund. Previously he was a portfolio manager at S.A.C Capital Associates, LLC starting in 1995, until founding Exis Capital Management, Inc. in 1998, where he was chief investment officer. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Arts in History. Sender has always been passionate about art and began building a significant collection of contemporary art in the late 1990s. The Sender Collection, which now includes works by John Baldessari, Urs Fischer, Dan Flavin, Martin Kippenberger, Mike Kelley, Barbara Kruger, Richard Prince, Raymond Pettibon, Elizabeth Peyton, Charles Ray, Ed Ruscha, Cindy Sherman, and Rosemarie Trockel, has been used as a lending library by major museums around the world. Additionally, Sender has supported various philanthropic organizations as diverse as PETA and the Woodstock Farm Sanctuary to the 9/11 Memorial Fund and The Clinton Foundation.

# THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES (MOCA)

**About MOCA:** Founded in 1979, MOCA's vision is to be the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short period of time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth with three Los Angeles locations of architectural renown; a world-class permanent collection of more than 6,800 objects, international in scope and among the finest in the world; hallmark education programs that are widely emulated; award-winning publications that present original scholarship; groundbreaking monographic, touring, and thematic exhibitions of international repute that survey the art of our time; and cutting-edge engagement with modes of new media production. MOCA is a not-for-profit institution that relies on a variety of funding sources for its activities.

**Hours:** MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue in downtown Los Angeles) is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11am to 6pm; Thursday from 11am to 8pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm; and closed on Tuesday. The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA (located at 152 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012) has the same hours as MOCA Grand Avenue during exhibitions.



### MOCA BOARD ELECTS NEW TRUSTEES: GABRIEL BRENER, MARY KLAUS MARTIN, ADAM SENDER, AND ARTIST LARI PITTMAN Page 3 of 3

Please call ahead or go to <u>moca.org</u> for The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA exhibition schedule. MOCA Pacific Design Center (located at 8687 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood, CA 90069) is open Tuesday through Friday from 11am to 5pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 6pm; and closed on Monday. The MOCA Store at MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue) is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:30am to 6:30pm; Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10:30am to 5:30pm; and Thursday from 10:30am to 8:30pm.

**Museum Admission:** General admission is free for all MOCA members. General admission is also free for everyone at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm, courtesy of Wells Fargo. General admission is always free at MOCA Pacific Design Center. General admission at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is \$12 for adults; \$7 for students with I.D. and seniors (65+); and free for children under 12.

**More Information:** For 24-hour information on current exhibitions, education programs, and special events, call 213/626-6222 or access MOCA online at <u>moca.org</u>.

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