

UPDATED RELEASE

January 12, 2018

Media Contacts:

Miriam Magdieli, 202.387.2151 x243 mmagdieli@phillipscollection.org

Online Press Room:

www.phillipscollection.org/press

THE PHILLIPS PRESENTS TO FUTURE WOMEN

Interactive Artwork by Georgia Saxelby Celebrates the Anniversary of the Women's March

WASHINGTON—The Phillips is proud to present *To Future Women*, a project created by artist Georgia Saxelby that marks the anniversary of the Women's March. The interactive artwork is on view at The Phillips Collection beginning January 21, the one-year anniversary of the Women's March, through February 14.

The installation invites participants to write a letter to women in 20 years. Part art and part history, these letters will be archived by The Phillips Collection and re-exhibited on January 21, 2037, historicizing one of the largest



demonstrations in American history while creating a time capsule for the next generation of women.

"To Future Women is about creating echoes. It is about generating our own histories by passing down our own stories. It is about acknowledging the women who will come after us by acknowledging our collective role in creating their future," said artist Georgia Saxelby.

"The Phillips is honored to host this installation commemorating such a historic event," said Phillips Director Dorothy Kosinski. "The Women's March on Washington occurred locally, but the impact was, and continues to be, felt globally."

To Future Women seeks to reinterpret the current cooperative acts of feminine solidarity and self-expression. The project aims to reactivate and repurpose museum spaces that were used and visited during the Women's March in Washington, DC, while acknowledging the city as the epicenter of a movement that spread worldwide.

The project aims to include participants throughout America and beyond. Those who cannot visit the museum may submit letters via mail. After launching at The Phillips Collection, the work will travel to different cultural institutions and public spaces in Washington, DC, over the following six months. Additionally, the collective trove of letters will be digitized and made available on a virtual platform. They will be accessible to the public for a limited period of time before being replaced by a countdown toward January 21, 2037. Portions of the letters will be periodically made available throughout the next 20 years on dates significant to the history of women. For updates, visit www.tofuturewomen.com.

To Future Women is supported by local DC-based institutions and organizations including The Phillips Collection, Halcyon Arts Lab, IA&A at Hillyer, and Stable.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

January 21, 4 pm: Opening and Gallery Talk with Georgia Saxelby

ABOUT GEORGIA SAXELBY

<u>Georgia Saxelby</u> is a Sydney-born, New York-based interdisciplinary artist whose research-driven practice investigates the relationship between art, architecture, ritual and cultural identity. Saxelby is currently a Fellow at the art and social impact incubator, <u>Halcyon Arts Lab</u>, in Washington DC. Here, she is creating participatory installations that investigate contemporary cultural relationships to women and feminine identity through invented ritual practices and symbolic actions.

Saxelby was recently awarded three high profile emerging artist grants to undertake a series of international mentorships and projects related to her research of sacred space. She was chosen in 2017 to speak at the International Architecture, Culture and Spirituality Symposium in USA on her practice. Two of Saxelby's recent interactive installations were presented as finalists in the Blake Prize, Australia's oldest and one of its most prestigious art prizes, and were the first live performative works chosen in the prize's history.

ABOUT THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION

The Phillips Collection, America's first museum of Modern art, is one of the world's most distinguished collections of Impressionist and Modern American and European art. Stressing the continuity between art of the past and present, it offers a strikingly original and experimental approach to Modern art by combining works of different nationalities and periods in displays that change frequently. The setting is similarly unconventional, featuring small rooms, a domestic scale, and a personal atmosphere. Artists represented in the collection include Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Vincent van Gogh, Edgar Degas, Henri Matisse, Pierre Bonnard, Paul Cézanne, Pablo Picasso, Paul Klee, Claude Monet, Honoré Daumier, Georgia O'Keeffe, Arthur Dove, Mark Rothko, Milton Avery, Jacob Lawrence, and Richard Diebenkorn, among others. The permanent collection has grown to include more than 1,000 photographs, many by American photographers Berenice Abbott, Esther Bubley, and Bruce Davidson, and works by contemporary artists such as Anselm Kiefer, Wolfgang Laib, Whitfield Lovell, and Leo Villareal. The Phillips Collection regularly organizes acclaimed special exhibitions, many of which travel internationally. The Phillips also produces award-winning education programs for K-12 teachers and students, as well as for adults. The University of Maryland Center for Art and Knowledge at The Phillips Collection is the museum's nexus for academic work, scholarly exchange, and interdisciplinary collaborations. Since 1941, the museum has hosted Sunday Concerts in its wood-paneled Music Room. The Phillips Collection is a private, non-government museum, supported primarily by donations.

Photo: Joe Gibson