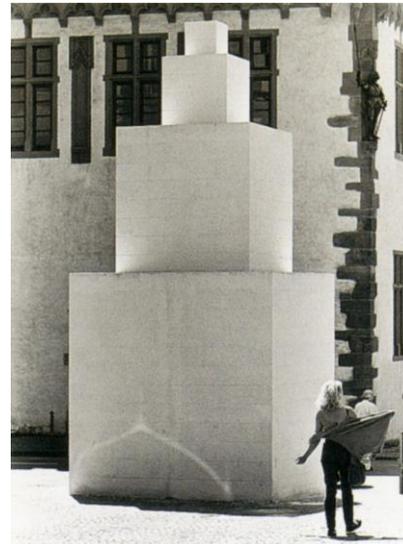
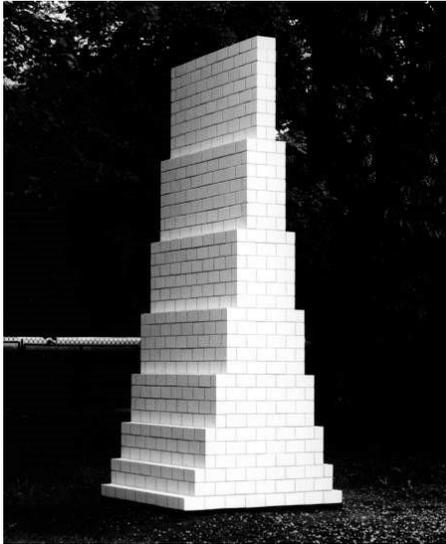


**ICA Miami Launches Annual Public Sculpture Program
in Collaboration with the Miami Design District**

**Inaugural Presentation Features Large-Scale Sculptures from Sol LeWitt's
Pioneering Concrete Block Series and
Major Gift from Renowned German Artist Thomas Bayrle**



Left: Sol LeWitt. Tower (Lodz), 1993. Concrete blocks. Right: Sol LeWitt. Tower (Frankfurt), 1990. Concrete blocks.

Miami, FL – September 21, 2017 – The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) today announced the launch of a new public sculpture initiative in collaboration with the Miami Design District this fall, in advance of the museum's launch of its permanent home on December 1, 2017. The new initiative extends ICA Miami's dynamic exhibitions program into the community and engages the public with thought-provoking contemporary art. Featuring significant works by leading post-war and contemporary artists, including major works from the museum's collection, the annual rotation opens with an installation of two monumental sculptures by conceptual artist Sol LeWitt, beginning November in the Miami Design District's Jungle Plaza, and in a newly renovated site in the Miami Design District on US 1. Also launching the program is a newly announced gift from renowned German artist Thomas Bayrle, a monumental steel sculpture commissioned for the artist's debut solo U.S. museum exhibition. The public sculpture initiative enables this major work from the museum's collection to remain on long-term view in ICA Miami's former space in the Design District's Moore Building.

"Engaging audiences with art beyond the walls of the museum and throughout our community is central to ICA Miami's mission and should be an everyday occurrence," said Ellen Salpeter, Director of ICA Miami. "We are thrilled to collaborate with the Miami Design District on this long-term initiative that will activate public space through dynamic art installations, and to announce this tremendous addition to our collection by Thomas Bayrle in advance of our public re-opening."

“Creativity is essential to the spirit and dynamism of the Miami Design District, and public art plays a prominent role in engaging the community,” said Craig Robins, President and CEO of Dacra and founder of the Miami Design District. “Through ICA Miami’s exciting programming, we will be able to bring even more of the world’s leading artists to amplify the vibrant range of cultural experiences available throughout the neighborhood.”

The new program is inaugurated with two outdoor concrete block structures by Sol LeWitt. The concrete structures are important examples of LeWitt’s approach to Minimalism and composition, and an expression of the artist’s engagement with urbanism and intervention with public space. Rising over 20 feet high, *Tower (Frankfurt)*, (1990) and *Tower (Lodz)*, (1993) will greet visitors at the entry to the Design District from Miami Beach. An important late series by LeWitt, the “Concrete Block Structures” see the artist experimenting with brutalist materials and expanding his collaborative method by working with engineers and architects in various localities. With their modular units and construction, the structures engage issues of production central to modern urban society.

Also on view is Thomas Bayrle’s *Wire Madonna*, a site-specific commission composed entirely of welded steel tubing, which the artist has gifted to the museum. Towering 33 feet high, *Wire Madonna* is the first large-scale steel structure ever realized by the artist and deepens his career-long exploration of craft, spirituality, and consumerism. The sculpture debuted during Art Basel Miami Beach 2016 as the anchor of the artist’s first American museum survey, *One Day on Success Street*. It remains on long-term view in the Moore Building’s Atrium, free to the public.

“As a medium grounded in conceptual innovation and material reality, sculpture is a significant focus of our programming at ICA Miami,” said Alex Gartenfeld, ICA Miami’s Deputy Director & Chief Curator. “As we look forward to unveiling a dedicated sculpture garden in December, this new initiative underscores and expands our commitment to the medium, and to working with artists who challenge our notions of art and public space.”

Highlighting its ongoing role as a platform for leading Miami-based artists, ICA Miami also launches commissions of two large-scale public artworks in the Miami Design District beginning this December. Mark Handforth will design a new collage on a billboard visible along highway I-395, while Jillian Mayer will create new work for a billboard on 54th Street. The museum’s inaugural billboard presentation in 2016 featured a mural of Thomas Bayrle’s *Lufthansa* (1982).

About the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami

The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) is dedicated to promoting continuous experimentation in contemporary art, advancing new scholarship, and fostering the exchange of art and ideas throughout the Miami region and internationally. Through an energetic calendar of exhibitions and programs, and its collection, the ICA Miami provides an important international platform for the work of local, emerging, and under-recognized artists, and advances the public appreciation and understanding of the most innovative art of our time.

Launched in 2014 and currently located in the landmark Moore Building, ICA Miami will open its new permanent home in Miami’s Design District on December 1, 2017. The museum’s central location positions it as a cultural anchor within the community and enhances its role in developing cultural literacy throughout the Miami region. The museum is deeply committed to providing

open, public access to artistic excellence by offering year-round free admission.
www.icamiami.org

About Miami Design District

The Miami Design District is a one-of-a-kind neighborhood that combines luxury shopping, galleries, museums, design stores, restaurants, and major art and design installations all within an architecturally significant context. The Miami Design District is owned and operated by Miami Design District Associates, a partnership between Dacra, founded and owned by visionary entrepreneur Craig Robins; and L Real Estate, a global real estate development and investment fund specializing in creating luxury shopping destinations. In 2017, the Miami Design District is expanding dramatically, with new restaurants and luxury boutiques opening in the distinctive, walkable neighborhood that welcomes and encourages innovation. As Miami becomes increasingly known for its own rich culture, the growth of the Miami Design District further reflects how the city is deserving of its place on the global stage.

For more information, visit www.miamidesigndistrict.net or (non-press inquiries) call 305.722.7100.

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