

MARY AND LEIGH

ANNUAL REPORT  
**BLOCK**

2008-2009



**MUSEUM**

OF ART



NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

## STAFF 2008–09

David A. Robertson  
*The Ellen Philips Katz Director*

Eric Bees  
*Development Assistant*

Elizabeth Benjamin  
*Block Fellow*

Kristina Bottomley  
*Registrar*

Aaron Chatman  
*Security Assistant*

Julia Csikesz  
*Assistant to the Director*

Nicole Druckman  
*Grants Manager*

James Foster  
*Manager of Security Services*

Corinne Granof  
*Curator*

John Hawkins  
*Museum Custodian*

Helen Hilken  
*Director of Development*

Bee Jenkins  
*Museum Custodian*

Burke Patten  
*Communications Manager*

Sheetal Prajapati  
*Director of Educational Programs*

Will Schmenner  
*Film Curator and Director, Block Cinema*

Dan Silverstein  
*Manager of Exhibitions and Facilities*

Carole Towns  
*Business Administrator*

Liz Wolf  
*Collections and Exhibitions Assistant*

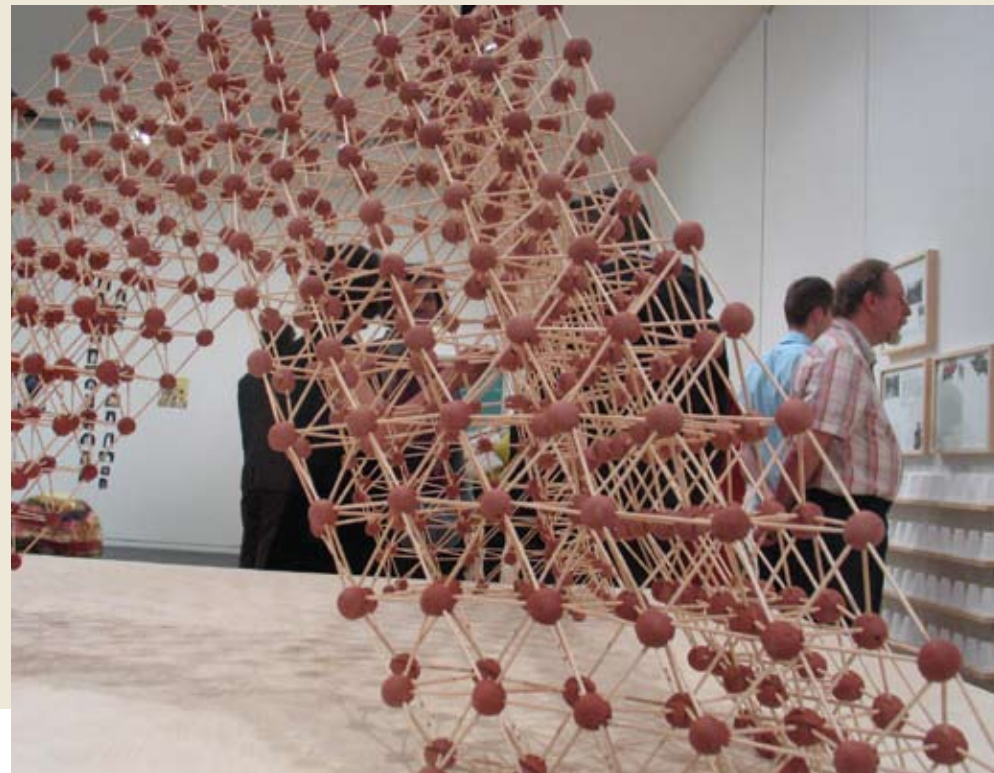
Debora Wood  
*Senior Curator*

RIGHT: Detail of Casey Lurie, *Model for Apple Structure I*, 2009, clay and toothpicks, from the *MFA Thesis Exhibition* from the Department of Art Theory & Practice.



## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, is dedicated to the growth of its collections and the study and exhibition of reproducible art forms — including prints, photographs, film, video, and computer-mediated art — and to their capacity to reach and transform society.



## BOARD OF ADVISORS 2008–09

James Elesh, *chair ex officio*

Elizabeth Bergmann

Huey Copeland

Diane Dawson

Susan Gersh

Helyn Goldenberg

William Hood

Ellen Philips Katz

Rosalyn M. Laudati

Judy Ledgerwood

R. Hugh Magill

Neal D. Meltzer

James B. Pick

David A. Robertson, *ex officio*

Selig D. Sacks

Jean E. Shedd, *ex officio*

Howard Tullmann

## MESSAGE from the Board of Advisors Chair and The Ellen Philips Katz Director

The Block Museum is blessed with an extraordinarily talented staff, dedicated volunteers, a committed parent institution in Northwestern University, and enthusiastic campus and community participants for its wide and varied programming.

Fiscal year 2008–09 reflected this truth in a variety of ways, not the least being a series of widely praised and well attended exhibitions. The traveling exhibition *Casting a Shadow: Creating the Alfred Hitchcock Picture*, organized by the Block in collaboration with the Margaret Herrick Library of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, was a blockbuster in Germany, where it opened the Berlin Film Festival and enjoyed an extended run at the Deutsche Kinemathek Museum.

Back home the Block brought the works of Magdalena Abakanowicz, Robert Mapplethorpe, and Gordon Parks to Northwestern while also serving as the Midwest host of *From Michelangelo to Annibale Carracci: A Century of Italian Drawings from the Prado*, featuring rarely seen objects from the collection of one of Europe's most prestigious institutions, and *A Letter from Japan: The Photographs of John Swope*, an exhibition offering a unique perspective on a key moment in world history—the end of the Second World War in the Pacific.

Block Cinema complemented these exhibitions with a series exploring the underground and mainstream cultures in which Robert Mapplethorpe lived and worked, screenings of Gordon Parks's films, and programs of World War II feature and propaganda films to accompany John Swope's war photography. Courses for undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education students, public lectures, gallery talks, and other programs expanded the discussions generated by our exhibitions and film screenings.

The Museum's education department launched an undergraduate docent program in 2008–09, engaging Northwestern students in creating and teaching curriculum-based lessons for school children. This endeavor has proved to be an exciting way for the Block to integrate Northwestern students into the services it provides local public and private schools.

Important art acquisitions during this year included photographic work by Robert Mapplethorpe and



Shirin Neshat, as well as prints by Mary Cassatt, Henri Matisse, Robert Motherwell, and Gladys Nilsson and computer-generated art by pioneering artists and software programmers John-Pierre Hébert and Roman Verostko. Our collections management team continued important conservation work on objects in the Outdoor Sculpture Garden while advancing the Museum's cataloguing project, with a new online collection search to be launched on the Block's website in the fall of 2010.

The Block was not exempt from the economic challenges of 2008–09, but the Museum achieved its financial goals and increased its endowment through the generosity of its supporters and firm commitment from the University. This was also the year that the Block earned accreditation from the American Association of Museums, a distinction bestowed on fewer than 800 of the country's 17,500 museums.

The reports that follow expand upon these and other activities by the Block during 2008–09. We are pleased to provide you with this summary of our achievements in this publication and hope that they will inspire you to deepen your engagement with the Block Museum in the years ahead.

**James Elesh**  
*Chair, Board of Advisors*

**David Alan Robertson**  
*The Ellen Philips Katz Director*



## EXHIBITIONS

### **A Letter from Japan: The Photographs of John Swope**

Main Gallery • September 19–November 30

Hollywood photographer John Swope traveled to Japan at the end of World War II to document the release of Allied prisoners of war. Swope's striking images of liberated G.I.s, Japanese soldiers and civilians, and ravaged landscapes create a highly complex portrait of two nations in the aftermath of war. *A Letter from Japan* was organized by the Hammer Museum.

### **Drawn from Memory: Holocaust in the Art of Samuel Bak**

Print, Drawing, and Photography Student Center • September 19–November 30

Reinterpreting iconic themes from Western art and combining them with his own recurrent imagery, Samuel Bak addresses the tragedies he and other European Jews endured during the Holocaust. *Drawn from Memory* was organized by the Block with cooperation from Pucker Gallery, Boston.

### **Magdalena Abakanowicz: Reality of Dreams**

Alsdorf Gallery • September 26–December 14

The work of internationally renowned artist Magdalena Abakanowicz expresses deep spiritual and philosophical quests. Organized by the Block with cooperation from Marlborough Gallery, New York, *Reality of Dreams* focused on Abakanowicz's drawings, a rarely explored facet of her oeuvre.

### **Theo Leffmann: Weaving a Life into Art**

Theo Leffmann Gallery • Ongoing exhibition

The Leffmann Gallery is dedicated to the work of the Chicago fiber artist and highlights selections from the more than 75 works donated to the Block by her husband, Paul Leffmann.



## THREE AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHERS: IN DEPTH

A yearlong schedule of programs complementing the Block's exhibition of photography by John Swope, Robert Mapplethorpe, and Gordon Parks launched in fall 2009, with generous support from the Terra Foundation for American Art and the Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University.

### **The Artist at War: John Swope and the History of War Photography\***

September 26 – Carolyn Peter, director of the Laband Art Gallery at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, addressed Swope's work in the context of war documentation.

### **World War II Short Films**

October 8 and November 12 – Block Cinema explored Hollywood's participation in the war effort with screenings of educational films, public service announcements, and propaganda created with the participation of top talents such as John Ford, Frank Capra, and Katharine Hepburn.

CLOCKWISE FROM LOWER LEFT: John Swope, *Arai*, September 5, 1945, gelatin silver print. UCLA Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Hammer Museum. Gift of the John Swope Trust, © John Swope Trust. Samuel Bak, *Measure of Time*, 2006, oil on canvas. Courtesy of Pucker Gallery, Boston. Magdalena Abakanowicz, *Flock (12 Standing Figures)* From the *Ragazzi*, 1990, burlap and resin. © Magdalena Abakanowicz, courtesy Marlborough Gallery, New York, NY.



## PROGRAMS

### **Block Out Friday**

October 3 – In partnership with *Northwestern Art Review*, the Block took Northwestern students to Dress Code, a student fashion design show at Chicago's Millennium Park.

### **Pinhole Cameras**

October 12 – Families learned the basic principles of photography by making their own cameras to capture images.

### **Dialogues with the Past and Present: The Vivid World of Samuel Bak\***

October 29 – Jeffrey Diefendorf, the Pamela Shulman Professor in European and Holocaust Studies at the University of New Hampshire, discussed how Bak engages contemplation of the Holocaust.

### **Abakanowicz and Chicago**

November 6 – Block Museum curator Corinne Granof spoke about the artist's work, including *Agora*, her sculptural installation in Grant Park, and the drawings displayed in the Block's *Reality of Dreams* exhibition.

## BLOCK CINEMA FILM SERIES

### **The Photography of John Swope and Hollywood's Depiction of World War II**

Programmed to complement the exhibition of John Swope's photography, this group of films provided a range of perspectives—devastating (*Attack!*), funny (*The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp*), and often highly nuanced (*Go for Broke!*)—on the Second World War.

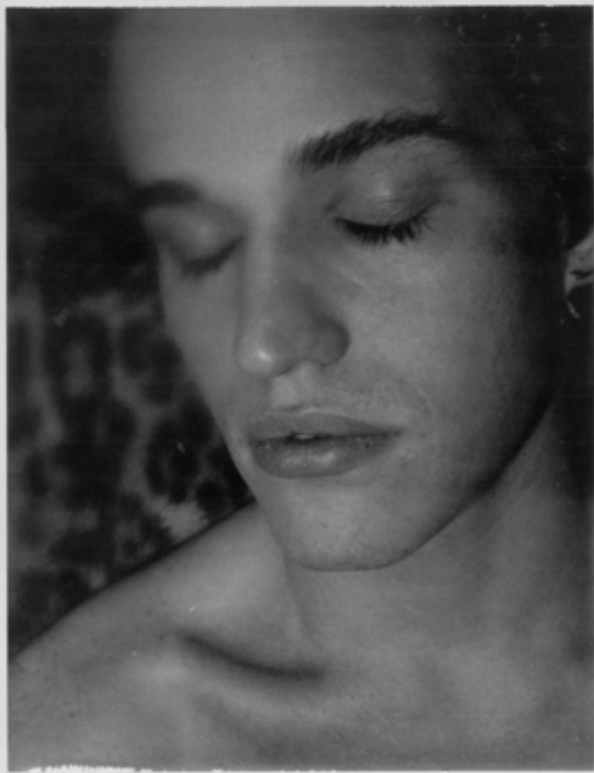
### **The Berlin School**

Block Cinema focused on an emerging crop of German directors more concerned with exploring the present than the impact of their country's past. Cosponsored by Northwestern's Department of German, this series was loaded with Chicago premieres, from Ulrich Köhler's comedic and surreal *Windows on Monday* to Benjamin Heisenberg's tense and timely *Sleeper*.

\*Visit [www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/podcasts](http://www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/podcasts) for podcasts of these events.







## THREE AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHERS: IN DEPTH

### Patti Smith in Conversation\*

**January 30** – Following a screening of *Patti Smith: Dream of Life*, the rock star and poet took part in a conversation with film director Steven Sebring and music critic Jim DeRogatis, discussing her relationship with Robert Mapplethorpe, her artistic processes, music in the digital age, and more.

### Robert Mapplethorpe: Artist and Activist\*

**March 7** – Northwestern art theory and practice professor Lane Relyea moderated a discussion of Mapplethorpe's influence on contemporary photography, activism, and issues of the body and sexuality. Participants included photographer Catherine Opie, *Polaroids: Mapplethorpe* curator Sylvia Wolf, former Mapplethorpe Foundation collections consultant Marisa Cardinale, and University of Maryland professor Jeffrey McCune Jr.



## EXHIBITIONS

### Polaroids: Mapplethorpe

Alsdorf Gallery • January 13–April 5

Taken between 1970 and 1975 as Robert Mapplethorpe was developing his personal style, the pictures in this exhibition anticipate the subjects and themes of the artist's mature work with the spontaneity and immediacy inherent to instant photography. *Polaroids: Mapplethorpe* was organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, in collaboration with the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation, New York.

### From Michelangelo to Annibale Carracci: A Century of Italian Drawings from the Prado

Main Gallery • January 23–April 5

This selection of 70 original drawings from one of Europe's most prestigious collections highlights the technical proficiency achieved by master artists of the 16th century while demonstrating the use of drawing in the creation of paintings, prints, and other art works. The exhibition was organized and circulated by Art Services International, Alexandria, Virginia, in association with the Museo Nacional del Prado.

TOP TO BOTTOM: Robert Mapplethorpe, *Untitled (Jay Johnson, London)*, 1973, Polaroid. Collection of the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation, New York. Copyright © Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation. Used by permission. Bartolomeo Passerotti (1529–92), *Male Head*, pen and brown ink. Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid, D-1781 (FD 1368).

## PROGRAMS

### Principles of Drawing

**January 28–March 4** – A collaboration with ARTica Studios in the University's Norris Center, this six-session studio course focused on drawing the human figure, with frequent visits to the Italian drawing exhibition at the Block for inspiration.

### Connoisseurship and Scholarship in Italian Drawings: Two Cogent Collections Compared\*

**February 5** – Suzanne Folds McCullagh, Anne Vogt Fuller and Marion Titus Searle Curator of Earlier Prints and Drawings at the Art Institute of Chicago, discussed the exhibitions *From Michelangelo to Annibale Carracci* and the Art Institute's *Drawn to Drawings: The Goldman Collection*, the extraordinary collections from which they were drawn, and the work of independent curator Nicholas Turner in organizing them.

### In Depth: Italian Drawings

**February 18** – Block Museum senior curator Debora Wood and Art Institute curator Suzanne Folds McCullagh led private viewings of Italian drawings at the Art Institute and the R. S. Johnson Fine Art Gallery.

### Drawing Triptychs

**February 22** – Works in the exhibition *From Michelangelo to Annibale Carracci* inspired families to create their own masterpieces using three different drawing techniques.

### Mapplethorpe Gallery Talk

**February 26** – Block Museum senior curator Debora Wood gave a special tour of *Polaroids: Mapplethorpe*, relating the exhibition's photographs to Mapplethorpe's later work and centuries of classical imagery.

### Block In Friday

**February 27** – Northwestern students enjoyed an Italian buffet and drawing lessons in the Main Gallery in an event cosponsored by Northwestern Art Review.

### Renaissance Drawing: A Roundtable Discussion

**March 13** – Professor Claudia Swan, chair of Northwestern's Department of Art History, organized this conversation with Northwestern faculty and visiting scholars aimed at both schol-



Still from *Midnight Cowboy*, directed by John Schlesinger, 1969.

## BLOCK CINEMA FILM SERIES

### The Times of Robert Mapplethorpe

A diverse selection of films explored the cultural milieu in which the photographer lived and worked. Sponsored by the Northwestern Center for Global Culture and Communication with a grant from the Ford Foundation for Difficult Dialogues, the series included queer cinema milestones by Kenneth Anger, Derek Jarman, and Gus Van Sant along with provocative mainstream boundary pushers such as *Midnight Cowboy*.

### Remake/Remodel: Rock and Roll Movies

From the lovable Beatles of *A Hard Day's Night* to the angst-ridden Radiohead in *Meeting People Is Easy*, the films in this series surveyed how the movies have documented, celebrated, and packaged rock music.

\*Visit [www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/podcasts](http://www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/podcasts) for podcasts of these events.

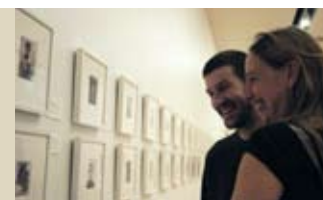


Photo by Jasmin Chang.





## EXHIBITIONS

### **Bare Witness: Photographs by Gordon Parks**

Main Gallery • April 24–June 28

The lens of Gordon Parks captured iconic images of the 20th century, from photographs chronicling the devastating grip of poverty and the arduous struggle for civil rights to powerful portraits of social and cultural leaders such as Malcolm X and Muhammad Ali. *Bare Witness* was organized by the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford University.

### **MFA Thesis Exhibition from the Department of Art Theory and Practice**

Alsdorf Gallery • May 8–June 21

This annual exhibition represents the culmination of the course of study for the master of fine arts degree in art theory and practice from Northwestern University. This year's exhibition featured the work of John Henderson, Aaron Hughes, Casey Lurie, and Jessie Mott.

## THREE AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHERS: IN DEPTH

### **Gordon Parks and His Artistic Process**

May 7 – David Parks spoke about his father's photography, films, and books and shared stories about their creation.

### **Gordon Parks: A Renaissance Man\***

May 16 – Professor Darlene Clark Hill, chair of Northwestern's Department of African American Studies, moderated a panel discussion about Parks's influence on 20th-century photography and film. Participants included Chicago-based photojournalist Bob Black, Philip Brookman of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and Professor Maren Stange of the Cooper Union, New York.

\* Visit [www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/podcasts](http://www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/podcasts) for a podcast of this event.

Still from *Shaft*, directed by Gordon Parks, 1971.



## PROGRAMS

### **Family Day Presented in Partnership with the Chicago Humanities Festival**

May 17 – Families enjoyed an afternoon of printmaking, improv games, and animated films.

### **Bare Witness Gallery Talk**

May 28 – Block Museum senior curator Debora Wood led a tour of the Gordon Parks exhibition, exploring his involvement with his subjects and his passion for telling stories through photography.

### **Block In Friday**

May 29 – Nearly 200 Northwestern students celebrated the end of the school year at an outdoor event cosponsored by STITCH magazine and Northwestern Art Review.

### **Gallery Talks: The Artists' Perspectives**

June 6 – The artists of the 2009 *MFA Thesis Exhibition* discussed their work.

## BLOCK CINEMA FILM SERIES

### **Gordon Parks**

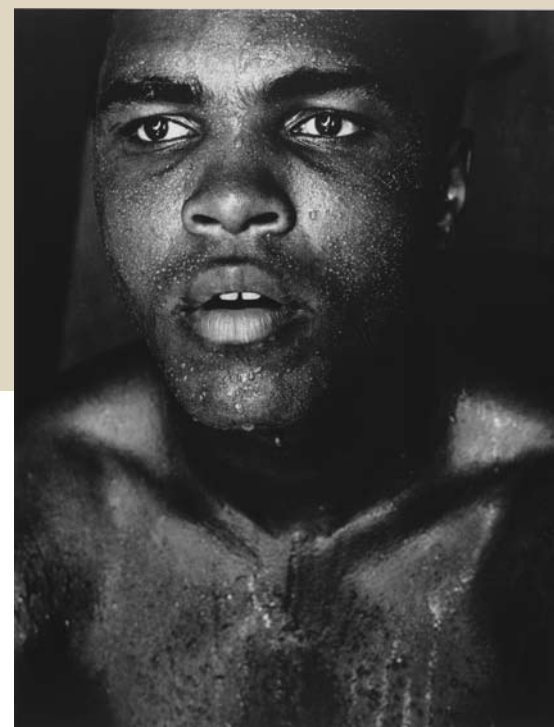
The first African American to direct films in the Hollywood studio system, Parks portrayed rural 1920s life in the semiautobiographical *The Learning Tree*, ushered in a wave of black action heroes with *Shaft*, and told the story of a free man kidnapped into slavery in *Solomon Northup's Odyssey*.

### **Biomimicry**

This cross-section of science fiction, drama, and action-adventure films (e.g., *A. I. Artificial Intelligence*, *Demonlover*, *Robocop*) asks what it means to be human when technology can replicate and reproduce life.

### **60s Godard**

The French New Wave's leading director made films for and about the baby boomers, or, as he put it, "the children of Marx and Coca-Cola." This series introduced and reintroduced Block Cinema's audiences to *Contempt*, *La Chinoise*, and other early classics by Jean-Luc Godard.





# SUMMER 2009



# ACQUISITIONS

## EXHIBITIONS

### Place and Presence: Photography from the Collection

Alsdorf Gallery • July 9–August 30

Photography has always played an important part in the Block Museum's permanent collection and exhibitions. This selection of photographs evokes the complex dimensions of locations and people, from quiet interiors and mysterious landscapes to intimate portraits and symbolic visages. Many of the photos in the exhibition had never previously been displayed at the Block.

## PROGRAMS

### Exhibition and Outdoor Sculpture Garden Tours

July 11–August 30 – Block Museum docents led tours of the *Place and Presence* exhibition and the Block's Sculpture Garden.

### Family Days

July 12 and August 9 – Two afternoons of creative fun and activities filled the Block's galleries and hallways with art making, laughter, and learning.

### Gallery Talk

July 24 – Block senior curator Debora Wood discussed the wide range of subjects and techniques on display in the exhibition *Place and Presence*.

## BLOCK CINEMA FILM SERIES

### Sumer Outdoor Movies

In partnership with the Norris Center for Student Involvement and Northwestern's Summer Session, Block Cinema brought a handful of contemporary blockbusters (*Iron Man*, *Wall-E*, and *Kung Fu Panda*) and classics (*Young Mr. Lincoln*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *The Third Man*) to Evanston's lakefront.

## Committee on Art Acquisitions

James Elesh, *chair*  
Helen Hilken  
Judy Ledgerwood  
David A. Robertson  
Jean Shedd  
Claudia Swan

The Block Museum acquired the following works through gift and purchase in 2008–09. The Museum extends its gratitude to the art donors and purchase fund supporters.

Accessions are listed alphabetically by artist's last name and then by object title. All dimensions refer to sheet size, unless noted; height precedes width. Block Museum accession numbers are at the end of each entry.



Mary Cassatt (American, 1844–1926), *In the Omnibus*, also called *The Tramway*, 1890–91, color aquatint, soft ground etching, and drypoint, 17<sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub> x 11<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches. Gift of James and Anne DeNaut, 2008.31.1

Mary Cassatt, *Standing Nude with a Towel*, ca. 1879, soft ground etching and aquatint, 12 x 9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches. Museum purchase, 2009.1

Aaron Fink (American, born 1955), *Perhaps*, 1985, portfolio of seven etchings with poems by Paul Genega, each print approximately 23<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 17<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches. Gift of Gerald W. Adelman, 2009.4a–r

Jean-Pierre Hébert (American, born France, 1939), *Cuneiform*, 2008, drypoint; software: Chance, by the artist in Mathematica; 31 x 22<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.32.4

Jean-Pierre Hébert, *Cuneiform 2*, 2008, drypoint; software: Chance, by the artist in Mathematica; 31 x 22<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.32.5

Jean-Pierre Hébert, *Heptagonal*, 2008, photo-etching; software: Circe, by the artist in Python; 18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub> x 18 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.32.2

TOP TO BOTTOM: Jean-Pierre Hébert, *Heptagonal*, © Jean-Pierre Hébert. Mary Cassatt, *In the Omnibus*.

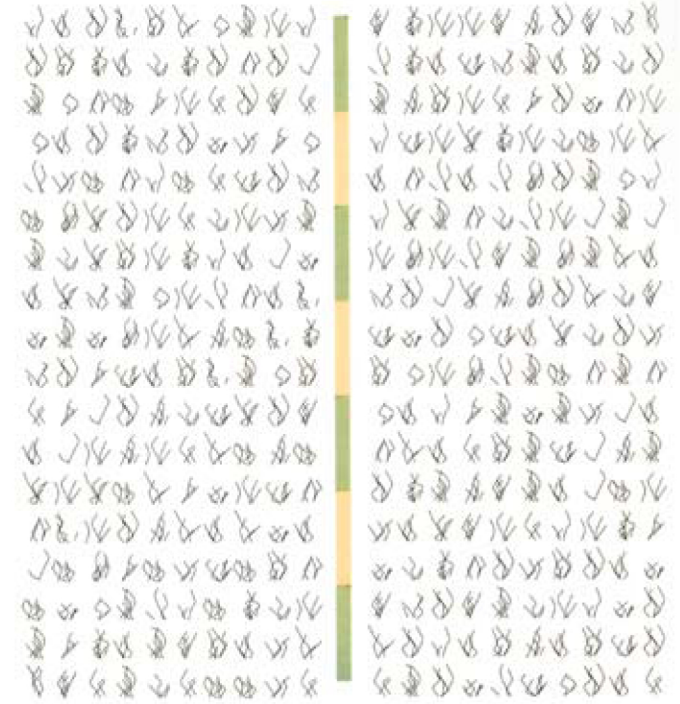


TOP TO BOTTOM: Brad Temkin, *Jetty*, from the series *Relics*, 2005, inkjet print. Block Museum, Gift of the artist in honor of Mia, 2006.5.26. Jane Calvin, *Dis-Location*, 2003, printed 2004, dye coupler print. Block Museum, Gift of the artist, 2008.26.





CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT: June Leaf, *Man and Serpent*. Henri Matisse, *Repose on the Banquette*, © 2010 Succession H. Matisse/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York. Roman Verostko, *Pearl Park-Scripture—Genesis 1, 6*, Courtesy of the artist. Shirin Neshat, *Untitled (men)* and *Untitled (women)*. © Shirin Neshat. Courtesy of Gladstone Gallery



Jean-Pierre Hébert, *Theodorus*, 2008, photo-etching; software: Circe, by the artist in Python; 18 1/8 x 18 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.32.1

Jean-Pierre Hébert, *Tourbillon Noir*, 2008, photo-etching; software: Circe, by the artist in Python; 18 x 18 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.32.3

June Leaf (American, born 1929), *Man and Serpent*, 1990, color monotype, 57 7/8 x 41 inches. Purchase funds provided in part by anonymous donor, 2009.2.1

June Leaf, *Rider*, 1990, color monotype, 47 1/2 x 35 1/8 inches. Purchase funds provided in part by Jerry and Carol Ginsburg and William and Nina Heiser, 2009.2.2

Henri Matisse (French, 1869–1954), *Repose on the Banquette*, 1929, lithograph, 19 3/4 x 26 1/16 inches. Gift of James and Anne DeNaut, 2008.31.2

Robert Motherwell (American, 1915–91), *Roth-Händler*, 1974–75, brushed aquatint and collage, 19 1/2 x 15 3/4 inches. Gift of Margot T. Linton, 2008.29

Shirin Neshat (Iranian, born 1957), *Untitled (men)*, from the series *Rapture*, 1999, gelatin silver print, 19 15/16 x 24 1/16 inches. Gift of Helyn D. Goldenberg, 2008.33.1

Shirin Neshat, *Untitled (women)*, from the series *Rapture*, 1999, gelatin silver print, 19 15/16 x 24 inches. Gift of Helyn D. Goldenberg, 2008.33.2

Gladys Nilsson (American, born 1940), *The Juggler*, 1993, etching, soft ground, and aquatint, 18 1/8 x 15 1/8 inches. Museum purchase, 2009.3

Marilyn Propp (American, born 1947), *Songs of a Celtic Harp*, 1989, oil on paper, 50 x 42 1/2 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2009.5

Roman Verostko (American, born 1929), *Art and Algorithm/Mind and Machine: Homage to George Boole*, 1991, plotter drawing, color ink on paper; software: Hodos, by the artist in BASIC; output device: Houston Instruments DMP 52 plotter; 24 x 17 7/8 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.30.4

Roman Verostko, *Cyberflower Number IV*, 2002, plotter drawing, color ink on paper; software by the artist; output device: Summagraphics HiPlot 7200 plotter; 29 x 23 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.30.6

Roman Verostko, *Derivations of the Laws of the Symbols of Logic from the Laws of the Operations of the Human Mind: An excerpt from the writings of George Boole*, 1990, handmade book with letterpress and plotter drawings in brush and ink and pen and color ink; software: Hodos, by the artist in BASIC; output device: Houston Instruments DMP 52 plotter; book size: 6 1/16 x 10 1/4 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.30.3

Roman Verostko, *Gaia Series*, 1989, drawn 2003, plotter drawing, color ink on paper; software by the artist in 1989; output device: Houston Instruments DMP 52 plotter; 24 1/4 x 20 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.30.2

Roman Verostko, *Pathway Series*, 1987, plotter drawing, color ink on paper; software: Hodos, by the artist in BASIC; output device: Houston Instruments DMP 52 plotter; 24 1/8 x 22 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.30.1

Roman Verostko, *Pearl Park Scripture—Genesis 1, 6*, 2004, plotter drawing, color ink on paper; software by the artist; output device: Houston Instruments DMP52 plotter; 20 x 30 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.30.7

Roman Verostko, *2000 Improvisations Celebrating 2000 Years*, 1999, plotter drawing, ink on paper; software by the artist; output device: Summagraphics HiPlot 7200 plotter; 24 1/8 x 40 inches. Anonymous Gift, 2008.30.5



# COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS



## EDUCATION

With support from the Terra Foundation for American Art and Northwestern's Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, the Block presented *Three American Photographers: In Depth*, a yearlong series of public programs focusing on the work of John Swope, Robert Mapplethorpe, and Gordon Parks. Thanks also to generous assistance from the Terra Foundation, the Block began offering podcasts of selected programs on its website this year. The podcasts have helped the Museum's programming reach a larger audience while creating permanent records of events.

In the spring the Block's education department teamed up with the Chicago Humanities Festival for the second time to present a free Family Day, with art-making activities, improvisational games, and animated films. Summertime brought scores of summer campers to the Museum for fun tours and art projects and saw the Block participating in the family activity areas at Evanston's Ethnic Arts and Lakeshore Arts Festivals.

Sheetal Prajapati, *director of educational programs 2007–2010*

## BLOCK CINEMA AND THE FILM AND PROJECTION SOCIETY

Organized by the Block Museum in collaboration with the Margaret Herrick Library at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, *Casting a Shadow: Creating the Alfred Hitchcock Picture* opened to much acclaim in January 2009 at the Berlin Film Festival. Originally scheduled through early May, the exhibition's run at the Deutsche Kinemathek Museum was extended by popular demand into June.

Back in Evanston, Block Cinema mounted collaborations with a number of Northwestern partners during the year, from a challenging selection of movies exploring the cultural times of Robert Mapplethorpe supported by the Center for Global Culture and Communication to talks by multimedia artists Dan Graham and Deborah Stratman coordinated with the Department of Art Theory & Practice.

The student-run Film and Projection Society continued to program series—including a selection of rock and roll movies and an exploration of biotechnology in science fiction, action, and drama films—and assist in the operations of Block Cinema. The annual Northwestern University Student Film Festival showcased the best of filmmaking on campus, while Sonic Celluloid, a joint production with the University radio station WNUR, once again paired silent and experimental films with live music.

Will Schmenner, *film curator and director, Block Cinema, 2002–09*



## BLOCK CIRCLE STEERING COMMITTEE

Block Museum supporters convened a new group in 2008–09 to deepen the involvement of the Museum's patrons. Combining the long-standing Friends Leadership Council with the Block Benefit Committee, the Block Circle Steering Committee organizes special programs for Block members and creates exciting opportunities to help the Museum grow.

In the fall the Steering Committee organized a private visit to the downtown Chicago galleries of Richard Gray and Thomas Masters for tours of work by artist Magdalena Abakanowicz. To complement the Block's winter exhibition of Italian drawings from the Prado Museum, the committee arranged a special viewing of Renaissance drawings from the collection of the Art Institute of Chicago and R. S. Johnson Fine Art. Following a reception thanking supporters at the Block in the spring, during the summer the committee held a reception at the home of Chicago-area collectors James and Sari Klien.

Helen Hilken, *director of development*

## COMMUNICATIONS

The Block's communications department and its talented student employees continued to broaden awareness of the Museum on campus, incorporating e-marketing efforts with grassroots approaches to promote the quarterly Block Out/Block In programs. Partnerships with student groups greatly helped build audiences for these events, with the spring Block In attracting more than 200 students. Working with Northwestern's Department of University Relations, the Block secured coverage of its exhibitions and programs in a wide range of media outlets, from the *Chicago Tribune* and *Time Out Chicago* to NBC5 Chicago.

Burke Patten, *communications manager*

Bonnie Balkin	Steffi Masur
Patricia Barnes	Carol Narup
Elizabeth Bergmann	Susie Rashid
Sally Dumas	Sandra L. Riggs
Edith Eisner	Christine O. Robb, <i>chair</i>
Pamela Elesh	Liz Rorke
Susan P. Fuller	Sandra Shane-DuBow
Jean Guritz	Dorothy Speidel
Gail Hodges	Cassie Spencer
Connie Hodson	Roberta Weinsheimer
Ruth Lasky	







## COMMUNITY AND STUDENT DOCENT PROGRAMS

The Block Museum is honored to have had a dedicated core of volunteer docents from Evanston and surrounding communities during the past 20-plus years. In 2008–09 these docents guided more than 1,000 visitors through our exhibitions and Outdoor Sculpture Garden during public and scheduled group tours. Docents underwent extensive training and education from the Block’s curatorial and education staff before each season, enhancing their knowledge of the Museum’s exhibitions and collections. Meanwhile the Community Docent Steering Committee continued to provide invaluable leadership and coordination support to their fellow docents and Museum staff.

The Museum successfully launched its student docent program in 2008–09, providing professional training and experience in museum practices to a select group of Northwestern undergraduates while delivering high-quality educational experiences to young visitors. Student docents are specially trained to give tours and lead related activities for school groups from kindergarten through 12th grade. New docents complete an eight week course to learn about the Museum, gallery teaching techniques, and discussion methods for school-age children before leading tours. New and returning student docents also receive ongoing education about the Block’s exhibitions and collections.

Sheetal Prajapati, *director of educational programs 2007–2010*

### Community Docents

Cele Arnold  
Zina Berman  
Dorothy Ellis  
Sue Ettlinger  
Judy Herbert  
Therese Jones  
Laurie Levin  
Rosie McDonel  
Peggy Parsons  
Jan Pavlovic  
Sylvia Rooth  
Virginia Rozell  
Sandra Shane-Dubow  
Dorothy Speidel  
Adrienne Traisman

Mary Willer  
Gloria Zieve

### Docent Steering Committee

Edith Eisner  
Jean Gurtiz  
Steffi Masur

### Student Docents

Jessica Bell  
Anna Dabrowski  
Jierong Pan  
Rebecca Ritger  
Sun Yuchu  
Yuanjia Zhu



## FINANCE COMMITTEE

The economic downturn of 2008 had an impact on the Block Museum, with revenue for the fiscal year totaling \$1,837,454, a decrease of 14 percent compared with 2007–08. With expenditures of \$1,672,430, the Museum’s overall financial operations nonetheless resulted in a favorable balance of \$165,023 carried forward to the following fiscal year’s budget. The majority of this surplus consisted of funds raised in advance for specific programs to be held during 2009–10.

A combination of endowment income, gifts, grants, memberships, and earned income provided approximately 54 percent of the Museum’s operating support in 2008–09. University allocations provided the remaining 46 percent. Unlike many of its peers where budgets have been severely cut, the Block Museum received an increase in financial support from its parent institution, Northwestern University, this year.

Grants, totaling nearly \$250,000 this year, continue to serve as an area of growth in the Museum’s operating budget, with funding sources reflecting both ongoing relationships with a number of charitable foundations and government agencies and new connections forged for exhibition and program needs. Among the former, the Museum is fortunate to have earned the support of the Louis Family Foundation; the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; the Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation; the Myers Foundations; the Rothschild Foundation; and the Rubens Family Foundation. The Terra Foundation provided generous assistance for American arts programming, while the Museum received new grants in 2008–09 from the McCormick Foundation and the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation.

In 2008–09 the Museum received the first payment on a major endowment established for Block Cinema by Block advisory board members Rosalyn M. Laudati and James B. Pick as well as a generous bequest from longtime friend and supporter Eloise Martin.

Jean E. Shedd, *chair*

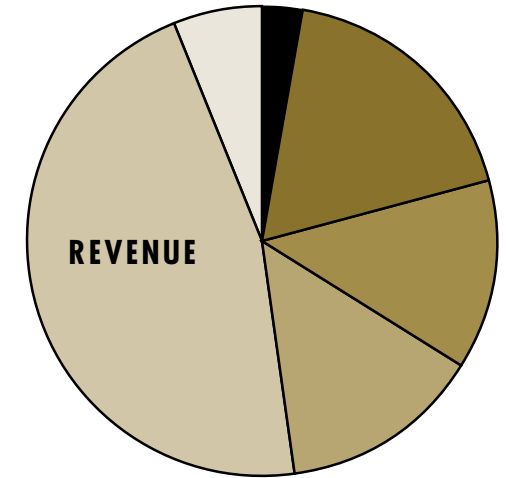
### REVENUE

Earned Income	\$62,451
Endowment	\$335,567
Individual Gifts	\$232,096
Grants	\$248,848
NU Appropriations	\$848,392
Carry Forward from FY08	\$110,100
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,837,454</b>

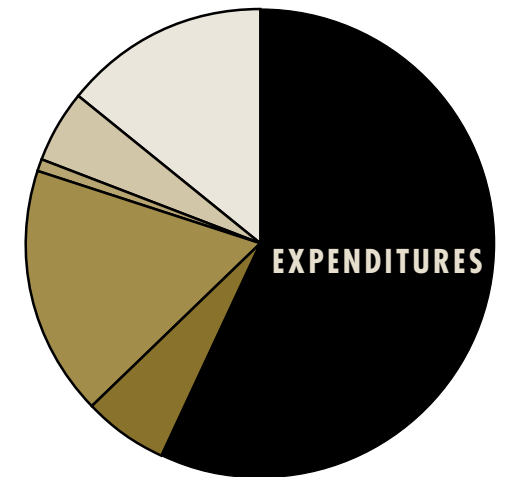
### EXPENDITURES

Salaries and Benefits	\$963,303
General Operations	\$92,561
Departmental Expenses	\$286,496
Capital Improvements	\$9,356
Film Program	\$84,011
Exhibitions	\$236,703
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,672,430</b>
<b>Net carry forward</b>	<b>\$165,023</b>

David A. Robertson; Jean E. Shedd, *chair*; Carole Towns



3%	Earned Income	14%	Grants
18%	Endowment	46%	NU Appropriations
13%	Individual Gifts	6%	Carry Forward



57%	Salaries and Benefits	1%	Capital Improvements
6%	General Operations	5%	Film Program
17%	Departmental Expenses	14%	Exhibitions



# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

The Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, foundations, and agencies who made contributions between September 1, 2008, and August 31, 2009.

## \$50,000 & above

James A. and Anne Simone Balas DeNaut  
James B. Pick and Rosalyn M. Laudati  
Terra Foundation for American Art

## \$25,000 – \$49,999

Chauncey and Marion  
Deering McCormick Foundation  
Conor McCormick O'Neil

## \$10,000 – \$24,999

Mark Alan and Marilyn F. Angelson  
Anonymous (2)  
James and Pamela Elesh  
Helyn Dawn Goldenberg  
David G. Kabiller  
The Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation

## \$5,000 – \$9,999

American Airlines  
Anonymous  
Edith C. Eisner  
Margot Linton  
Eloise Martin  
Selig D. Sacks and Angela Himsel  
Arete Swartz Warren

## \$2,500–\$4,999

Diane L. Dawson  
Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation  
Hulda B. & Maurice L. Rothschild Foundation  
Istituto Italiano di Cultura  
John K. and Janis Wellin Notz  
John D. and Jean M. Simms

## \$1,000–\$2,499

Anonymous (2)  
Kim Beckmann  
James N. and Nicole E. Druckman  
Janet Dennis Dumas  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Judith Rachel Freeman  
Barbara Nitche Fuldner  
Henry Fuldner  
Jerome J. and Carol Ginsburg

Denise Jennings Gunter  
Robert and Jean Loafboro Guritz  
William J. and Nina Heiser  
Tom and Gail Hodges  
Thomas W. and Constance S. Hodson  
Vivian S. Kaplan  
James A. and Sari Klein  
Ruth Greenwald Lasky  
Daniel I. and Jennifer B. Linzer  
Nancy Tims and R. Hugh Magill  
Ronald L. Marmor  
Steffi R. Masur  
Carol Petersen Narup  
William J. Narup  
Charles D. and Cornelia M. O'Kieffe  
Dattatraya S. and Rita D. Prajapati  
Susan W. Rashid  
Sandi Riggs  
William John and Christine Olson Robb  
Alexander I. Rorke and Elizabeth J. Sturgeon  
Ilse Rosenbaum Living Trust  
Rubens Family Foundation  
Sotheby's  
Granvil I. and Marcia Greenburg Specks  
Cassie Spencer

## \$500 – \$999

Anonymous gifts  
William J. and Celia M. Arnold  
Bernard J. and Sally Seibert Dobroski  
Loretta Wiczorek Kahn  
James F. and Colleen Karavites Karr  
Peter Kinney and Lisa L. Sandquist  
Burt H. Kleinman  
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Global Impact  
Funding Trust  
Ronnie K. Pirovino  
Jeffrey and Lillian Rosenberg  
Myron E. and Susan B. Rubnitz  
Julie Fitzgerald Schauer  
Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving  
Duward F. and Shirley A. Shriver  
Robert and Barbara Zubrick Sieben  
Patricia Balto Stratton  
Louise Olson Underwood

William A. and Mary Reiley Walsh  
Warren B. and Anne Weisberg  
David and Nikki Martin Zarefsky

## \$250–\$499

Anonymous gifts  
John C. and Jean Smith Berghoff  
Robert A. and Joy Creamer  
Anthony B. and Laura Sims Davis  
Edward C. Haversang and Barbara Torter  
Helen Hilken  
Ruth P. Horwich  
Thomas and Rita Koerner  
Richard A. Lenon  
William R. Levin  
Robert A. Lewis  
Russell K. and Anne Albrecht Mayerfeld  
Robert and Lois P. Moeller  
Phillip Anthony Perry  
Howard J. Romanek  
James M. Shaeffer and Lynn Hughitt  
Dorothy J. Speidel  
Doris Feitler Sternberg  
Elizabeth G. Stout  
James P. and Gail Williams Young  
Gloria J. Zieve

## Up to \$249

Aaron Adler  
Alice Adler  
Emily M. Allen  
Albert Louis and Nancy Willis Allred  
Edith Altman  
Nancy Ames  
Anonymous gifts  
Lawrence I. and Evelyn Weinstein Aronson  
Adolfo I. Autrey  
S. George and Elaine F. Bankoff  
Richard G. Barrier  
Marcia Baum  
Dorothy L. Baumgarten  
James Zachary Belfer  
Donald A. and Susan Schnadig Belgrad  
Patricia J. Bennett  
Gershon and Suzanne R. Berkson

Zina Berman  
Howard N. and Harriet Kopel Bernstein  
Karl and Diane Berolzheimer  
Neal Blair and Sarah M. Pritchard  
Virginia Grant Blair  
Sidney Black  
Robert Earl and Laura M. Boyd  
Anne M. Boyd-McKisson  
Nancy Braund-Boruch  
William and Barbara A. Brien  
George and Jacqueline M. Brumlik  
Allan E. and Suzette Bross Bulley  
Judith Brown Burry  
Robert and Patricia Burt  
Gretchen Cahn  
Kenneth M. Cahn Family Trust  
Mildred F. Cahn  
Roland B. and Shirley Somers Calhoun  
Richard Benjamin Caplan  
Carolyn Carlson  
Stephen H. and Virginia Carr  
Edmund W. Chang  
Dorothy Chaplik  
Dudley S. and Nancy Childress  
Leah Waldman Chiprin  
Josephine S. Chyatte  
S. Hollis Clayton  
Roger B. and Ann S. Cole  
Colleen Florence Conrad  
Huey G. Copeland  
Barry and Joan L. Cotter  
Joan K. Danford  
Linda T. Dillman  
Lisa Dimberg  
Wayne E. and Yvonne M. Dreyer  
Robert N. and Mary Eisner Eccles  
Matthew S. and Kristin Edwards  
Brenna Nedds Ehrlich  
Howard C. Eiklor  
Arthur S. and Rochelle S. Elstein  
Nancy J. Engelhard  
Robert E. and Barbara Langan Epler  
Brian K. Esser  
Edward R. and Sue H. Ettlinger  
Sondra Fargo

Sara S. Feinstein  
Clint L. Finger and Laura M. Rossow  
Beatrice Fisher  
Roslyn Klein Flegel  
Joel M. Fogelson  
Robert J. and Joan Fragen  
Susan Fuller  
Jack A. and Barbara Barringer Gallas  
Sheila Gamradt  
Edward P. and Bryna Goldman Gamson  
Florence Sargis Ganja  
Jerry L. and Geraldine O. Garner  
Victoria Gelfand  
Jean Gershuny  
Stanley J. and Dona Gerson  
Marvin J. and Phyllis Goldblatt  
Robin Goldsmith  
Corinne Granof  
Alan S. and Sallie E. Gratch  
Clare P. Greenberg  
Sara Michelle Griggs  
Eston M. and Sandra Wagner Gross  
Mrs. Dana Hagenah  
Chester S. and Phyllis J. Handelman  
Harold E. and June Micka Harris  
Jess and Daiva Harris  
Jerome J. Hausman  
Emily Karin Hereford  
Roger Miles Heuberger  
Marjorie Sanders Heyman  
Lauren Marie Hock  
Hilary A. Holmes  
Carla R. Holtze  
Edward W. and Constance F. Horner  
Houghton Mifflin Company  
Debra Hunter  
David Benjamin Hyman  
Jimmy A. Isaacs  
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago  
Arlene V. Johnson  
Doris J. Johnson  
Gene Jones  
Therese M. Jones  
George and Anita Schein Kapsis  
David J. Katzelnick  
Barbara Marland Kaufman  
Leon M. and Barbara Davis Keer  
JoEllen Kerwin  
Lawrence Kessel  
Grant Jacob Kettering  
Jason Scott Klorfein  
Ronald R. and Ursulla G. Knakmuhs  
Mary B. Knutson  
Elizabeth A. Koerner  
Shirley Bee Kostakos  
Barbara Bloom Kreml  
Stanley Krippner  
Mark D. Kuhl  
Charles J. Kurland  
Miriam E. Landsman  
G. Timothy Later and Mary B. Field  
Judy Ledgerwood  
Connie Lee  
Paul L. Lerner

Nancy Roseman Levi  
Daniel A. and Lucia Woods Lindley  
Marjorie Albright Lins  
Donald Lisle  
Ethel Liten  
Herbert and Joan Leshin Loeb  
Jonathan C. Love  
Sharon M. Luebbers  
Janice Rosen Lurie  
Esther Mann  
Gloria Zindell Marcus  
Joseph S. Martinich and Vicki Lynn Sauter  
Mastercare Rehabilitative Services  
Patricia Ann Mathis  
Rosamond McDonel  
John P. and Carole P. McMahon  
Taylor Ellen McNulty  
Trina Burr Melamed  
Albert and Corinne Moch  
Annie Moldafsky  
Moldafsky Group  
Christopher Mathew and Chelly Fahrbach  
Montgomery  
Judith K. Moore  
Diane Baraban More  
Andrew Kenneth Mostello  
William R. Muenster  
Betty Love Murphy  
Elizabeth Schlecht and Stephen R. Murrill  
My Pie International  
Louise R. Neidorf  
George Nelson  
June Therese Nho  
Emma Irene Olson  
Dennis B. and Mary Lu O'Malley  
Ralph M. and Janet Smith Otwell  
Luvie Owens  
Thomas A. Pavlovic  
Jane Monro Peddicord  
Hyde C. and Ann W. Perce  
Janie S. Petersen  
Lloyd J. and Jane Houston Peterson  
Jorgen and Cheryl Phillips  
Bonnie H. Pick  
Rebecca J. Port  
Haley M. Powell  
James R. Putt  
Sonya Rapoport  
Garfield and Betty Rawitsch  
Mrs. Elanor J. Reiter  
Paula M. Renzi  
Diana Isabel Richter  
Ed Ripp  
Roy V. Robertson  
Jessica Christine Rockswold  
James E. and Elizabeth B. Roghair  
Adina Epstein Romain  
Robert J. Romain  
Anne N. Romimer  
Edwin C. and Barbara Rossow  
Virginia Rozell  
Eleanor Rusnak  
David and Judith O. Saunders  
Susan D. Schmidt

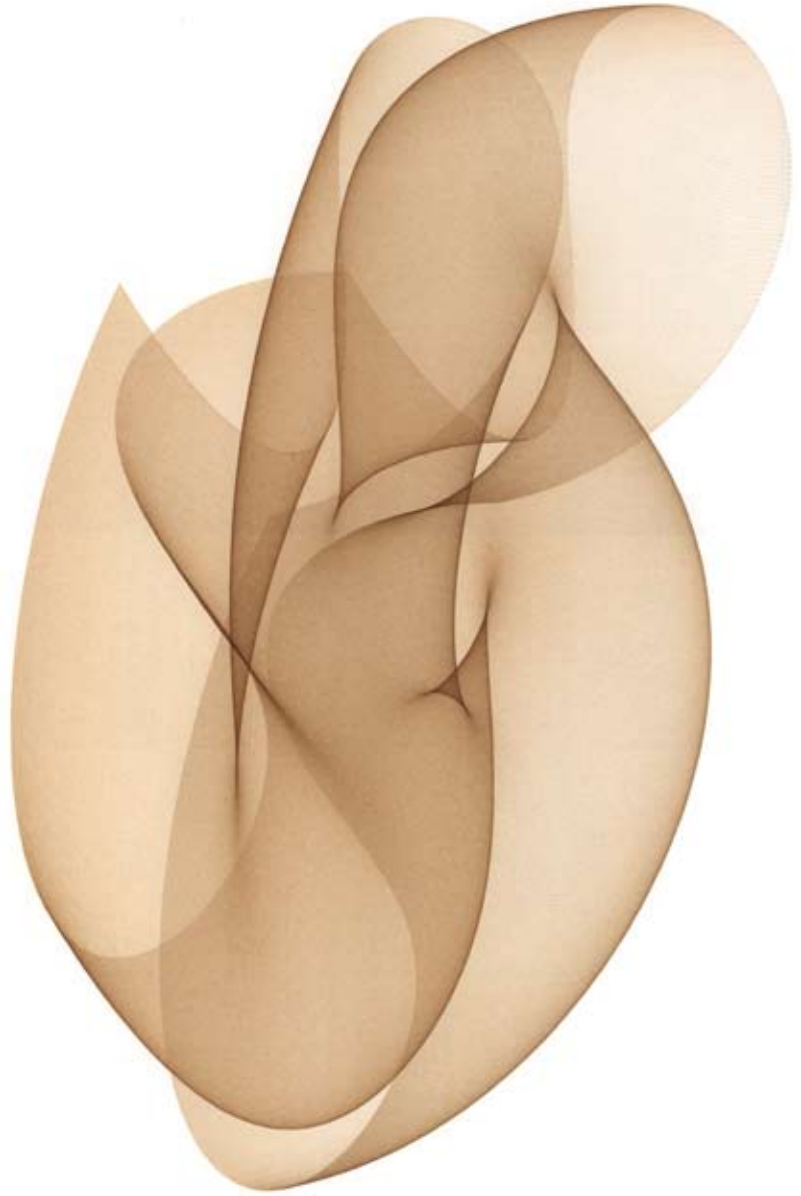
F. Eugene and Barbara Schmitt  
Schnadig-Belgrad Foundation  
Mitchel A. and Diane Schneider  
Louis L. Schorsch and Kathy L. Berger  
Robert E. Schrade  
Mary Schuette  
Ann Fairman Searles  
Leopold B. Segeidin  
Nancy Kuhn Seibold  
Robert K. and Barbara Seyfried  
Jean E. Shedd  
James C. and Rita Pearlman Sheinin  
Robert C. Shields  
Gordon B. and Constance Eger Shneider  
Stephen Silverman and Janet Leder  
Sanford N. and Ruth P. Singer  
Melvyn A. Skvarla  
Larry and Maxine Snider  
Sara Snyder  
Susan B. Sohl  
Ann B. Stevens  
Liz Stiffel  
Diane A. Stone  
Peter and Terri Strand  
Colette Stuebe  
Mark A. Sturino  
Dillon Vaughn Styke  
Amelia Hirsch Sugarman  
Martin and Marion Swerdlow  
Julie Jagdish Tamboli  
Lawrence and Molly Tang  
Louise Taylor  
Jacqueline Thompson  
Robert W. and Colleen Kelly Thornburgh  
Helen McMahan Tillman  
Robin Erica Tisman  
James S. and Joann Raymaley Tames  
Joan Truckenbrod  
Valery True  
Jane E. Tufts  
Carol Steinruck Vanover  
David T. Van Zanten  
Paul and Michele Vishny  
Betty Wagner  
Joan G. Wagner  
Victor L. and Jane Robbins Walchirk  
Barbara Marquand Wanke  
Rudolph H. and Regitze Weingartner  
William C. and Roberta Weinsheimer  
Samuel Weiss  
Penelope Wilmot Whiteside  
Monique M. Whiting  
Edward and Mary Willer  
A. Virginia Witucke  
Thomas and Donna Woehrl  
Kenneth E. and Roycealee Johnson Wood  
Leonard E. and Bonnie Zak  
Steven Zick

Every effort has been made by Northwestern's Office of Alumni Relations and Development and the Block Museum's development staff to ensure the accuracy of the donor list. We sincerely apologize to anyone whose name has been accidentally omitted or whose contribution has not been fully recognized here.

FRONT COVER IMAGES: Clockwise from the upper left: Tom Van Eynde, *Temple of Amyn at Kaenak, Egypt—Hypostyle Hall, Man Sweeping at Dawn*, 1988, printed 2006, inkjet print. Block Museum, Gift of the Van Eynde Family, 2007.3.1. Courtesy of Tom Van Eynde. Gordon Parks, *Mrs. Jefferson, Fort Scott*, 1949, gelatin silver print. The Capital Group Foundation, L10.46.2002. Robert Mapplethorpe, *Untitled (self-portrait)*, 1970/73, Polaroid. Block Museum, Gift of the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation, New York, 2007.12. © Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation. Used by permission. John Swope, Arai, *Ohmura Family (Sataru, Tetuji, and Kimiko) with Kimiko's Brother, Noburu Asakura*, September 7, 1945, gelatin silver print. John Swope Collection. © John Swope Trust.

BACK PAGE: Roman Verostko, *Cyberflower Number IV*, 2002, plotter drawing, color ink on paper. Block Museum, Anonymous gift, 2008.30.6.





MARY & LEIGH  
**block**  
MUSEUM OF ART

**Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art**  
Northwestern University  
40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, IL 60208

Presorted  
First Class Mail  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Evanston, IL  
Permit No. 205  
60201