

Media Contact:
EXPO CHICAGO Press Agency
Francesca Kielb, Carol Fox and Associates
773.969.5035/francescak@carolfoxassociates.com

International Press Contact:
David Ulrichs, David Ulrichs PR
+4917650330135/david@davidulrichs.com

For Immediate Release:
September 19, 2019



EXPO CHICAGO ANNOUNCES 2020 ALIGNMENTS

EXPO CHICAGO Announces 2020 Initiatives in Partnership with **Nick Cave, Park Avenue Armory and Navy Pier; Art World Conference; and Off-Site Pavilion Exhibition** in Collaboration with the **Malmö Art Museum**, Supported by the **Danish Arts Foundation** and Aligned with **ART 2030** Surrounding the Ninth Edition

CHICAGO – **EXPO CHICAGO**, the International Exposition of Contemporary & Modern Art (September 24–27, 2020), is pleased to announce its year-round alignments with several globally recognized creative partners surrounding the ninth annual edition. In 2020, EXPO CHICAGO will partner with **Nick Cave, Park Avenue Armory** and **Navy Pier** to present the artist’s dance-based town hall *The Let Go* in April; **ART WORLD CONFERENCE** to present an annual convening of artists and arts professionals off-site during the exposition; and the **Malmö Art Museum, Danish Arts Foundation** and **ART 2030** for an **Off-Site Pavilion Exhibition** with a Nordic focus opening in September in alignment with the exposition before traveling to Scandinavia.

“As EXPO CHICAGO looks to its ninth edition in 2020, we continue to solidify our place as a year-round platform for creative endeavors on both a local and global scale,” said EXPO CHICAGO President | Director **Tony Karman**. “Opening with Nick Cave’s interactive performance *The Let Go* at Navy Pier in April 2020, the ninth edition of the exposition will feature numerous alignments, including Art World Conference and a pavilion exhibition featuring Scandinavian artists,” he added. “These initiatives and soon to be announced programs will add vital cultural experiences to the City of Chicago, ensuring that next year’s exposition is as engaging and critically acclaimed as our past editions.”

***The Let Go* by Nick Cave | April 3 – 12, 2020**

Interdisciplinary artist Nick Cave will transform Navy Pier’s Festival Hall into a dance-based town hall—part installation, part performance—to which the Chicago community will be invited to “let go” and speak their minds through movement, work out frustrations and celebrate independence as well as community. The reimaged Festival Hall A at Navy Pier will allow for social gatherings and be activated by “Chase,” Cave’s multi-colored, 40-foot high, 100-foot-long mylar sculpture that glides across the dance floor. This multi-disciplinary experience is presented by Navy Pier in partnership with EXPO CHICAGO and Park Avenue Armory in New York which commissioned and premiered the work in 2018.

“The most important part of my practice as an artist is when the work intersects directly with the moment in time we are all sharing and with each other,” said artist **Nick Cave**. “The Let Go

is exactly what we need going into the 2020 election season, where all our energies will be on high and what we really need is to be clear headed. I am thrilled to share this work at this time with my hometown community of Chicago.”

“In today’s tumultuous world, Nick’s artistic vision and desire to build understanding through dance are more vital than ever,” said **Rebecca Robertson**, Founding President and Executive Producer of Park Avenue Armory. “By harnessing and cultivating the power of community, this commission serves as a spirited reminder of our shared humanity.”

“Nick Cave is one of the most imaginative, innovative and inclusive artists in the world, and we are fortunate to have him in Chicago as an active member of our cultural community,” said Navy Pier Chief Program and Civic Engagement Officer **Michelle T. Boone**. “Navy Pier is thrilled to partner with Nick Cave, Park Avenue Armory, EXPO CHICAGO and the many local artists, performers and citizens that will be a part of this dynamic experience.”

ART WORLD CONFERENCE | September, 2020

Art World Conference will take place in Chicago in alignment with the ninth edition of EXPO CHICAGO in September, 2020. The conference is an annual convening of artists and arts professionals focused on career development, empowerment and the sharing of practical, actionable information on business and financial literacy to build and sustain careers in the arts. Art World Conference brings together innovators, thought leaders, arts professionals and visual artists at all stages of their careers. Through panel discussions, conversations and workshops led by dozens of experts in the field, Art World Conference addresses many of the opportunities and challenges faced by visual artists and arts professionals who are transforming the creative sector and culture-at-large. Topics range from financial planning, contracts, negotiation, taxes, managing debt, real estate and investing to new technologies, public projects, social media and growing audience.

“Artists are creative professionals and entrepreneurs,” said Art World Conference organizers, **Dexter Wimberly** and **Heather Bhandari**. “Whether small or large, they are running businesses. Therefore, they need to be aware of the day-to-day operations of a business: taxes, contracts and expectations when working with other businesses. The conference is about providing information, ideas, and resources so that artists can chart their own paths toward their individual goals, which may involve upward mobility, economic sustainability, reaching new audiences, saving for retirement, creating a stable digital archive, or a complex mix of these many things.”

Off-Site Exhibition Pavilion | September, 2020

Following the Palais de Tokyo collaboration in 2017 and a continuation of the exposition’s core Curatorial Initiatives program, the Nordic Pavilion exhibition, co-organized by EXPO CHICAGO and the Malmö Art Museum, will present works by Scandinavian artists in dialogue with artists from Chicago and the region, in alignment with the ninth annual exposition. The presentation and program will be supported by Danish Arts Foundation and aligned with ART 2030, a mission-driven organization that works with internationally renowned artists to achieve the UN Global Goals. The thematic of the Nordic Pavilion exhibition aligns with the UN’s Goal 11: to make cities and human settlements inclusive, resilient and sustainable. The exhibition will originate in Chicago during EXPO CHICAGO 2020 at a location to be announced and travel to Scandinavian institutions, beginning with the Malmö Art Museum in 2021.

“With the launch of the Nordic Pavilion in 2020, EXPO CHICAGO continues to be one of the only art fairs in the world organizing major institutional exhibitions with international partners,” said EXPO CHICAGO Artistic Director **Stephanie Cristello**. “I am confident that Kirse’s keen curatorial eye and unique culturally, socially and politically engaged approach will be the perfect complement to the work being forged by artists in Chicago and the region, and look forward to introducing the different contexts the artists and partners from the United States and Scandinavia will bring to both platforms for the exhibition.”

“Countries in Scandinavia see themselves as sustainability pioneers, even though the statistics say we are among some of the most CO2 producing countries, due to the high level of living and equality,” said Malmö Art Museum Director and 2018 Curatorial Exchange Participant **Kirse Junge-Stevnsborg**. “I look forward to considering how art can put focus on how we can share our experiences and learn from each other across countries and on a global scale.”

About Navy Pier

Located on Lake Michigan, Navy Pier is one of the top-attended nonprofit destinations in the Midwest, stretching more than six city blocks and welcoming nearly 9 million guests annually. Originally opened in 1916 as a shipping and recreation facility, this Chicago landmark showcases more than 50 acres of parks, restaurants, attractions, retail shops, sightseeing and dining cruise boats, exposition facilities and more. The Pier recently celebrated its 100th anniversary with the unveiling of the iconic *Centennial Wheel*, *Polk Bros Park*, *Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion* and *Peoples Energy Welcome Pavilion*. In 2019, Navy Pier continues to usher in its second century with ongoing pier-wide redevelopment efforts – including a 220-room Hilton hotel with rooftop bar *Offshore* (now open), a marina and more – in addition to free, year-round arts and cultural programming designed to inspire, educate and connect communities across the city and globe. [Click here](#) to donate to Navy Pier, a 501(c)(3) organization, in support of free public programs. For more information, visit www.navypier.org.

About Park Avenue Armory

Part American palace, part industrial shed, Park Avenue Armory is dedicated to supporting unconventional works in the visual and performing arts that need non-traditional spaces for their full realization, enabling artists to create, students to explore, and audiences to consume epic and adventurous presentations that cannot be mounted elsewhere in New York City. Beyond the Armory, commissioned projects such as *FLEXN* - a dance-theatre collaboration between Peter Sellars and Reggie (Regg Roc) Gray and the Brooklyn flex community - have been presented at national festivals and internationally in France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Romania, and, in October 2019, Brazil. www.armoryonpark.org

About Art World Conference

Art World Conference is an annual, multi-city convening of artists and arts professionals focused on career development, empowerment and the sharing of practical, actionable information on business and financial literacy to build and sustain careers in the arts. Art World Conference brings together innovators, thought leaders, arts professionals and visual artists at all stages of their careers. For more information, follow [@artworldconference](https://twitter.com/artworldconference) or visit www.artworldconference.com.

About EXPO CHICAGO

Opening the fall art season each September, **EXPO CHICAGO**, The International Exposition of Contemporary & Modern Art features leading international galleries alongside one of the highest quality platforms for contemporary art and culture. Hosted within Navy Pier's Festival Hall, EXPO CHICAGO's ninth edition will take place September 24 – 27, 2020. EXPO CHICAGO presents a diverse program, including **/Dialogues** (presented in partnership with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago) and ***Exchange by Northern Trust***, an unrivaled talks program for both public and VIP audiences; **IN/SITU**, dynamic on-site installations highlighting large-scale sculpture, film, and site-specific work; and major public art initiatives, including **IN/SITU Outside**, public art installed throughout Chicago Park District locations, and **OVERRIDE**, a curated selection of international artists throughout the city's digital billboard network. The EXPO CHICAGO program also features an unprecedented commitment to host curatorial initiatives during the exposition, including the **Curatorial Forum** in partnership with Independent Curators International (ICI), and the **Curatorial Exchange**, which partners with foreign agencies and consulates to expand the exposition's global reach. EXPO CHICAGO is the publisher of **THE SEEN**, Chicago's only international journal of contemporary and modern art criticism, online and in print.

EXPO CHICAGO is presented by Art Expositions, LLC. Under the leadership of President and Director **Tony Karman**, EXPO CHICAGO draws upon the city's rich history as a vibrant international cultural destination, while highlighting the region's contemporary arts community and inspiring its collector base. For more information on EXPO CHICAGO and **EXPO ART WEEK** (September 21 – 27, 2020) visit **expochicago.com**.

#