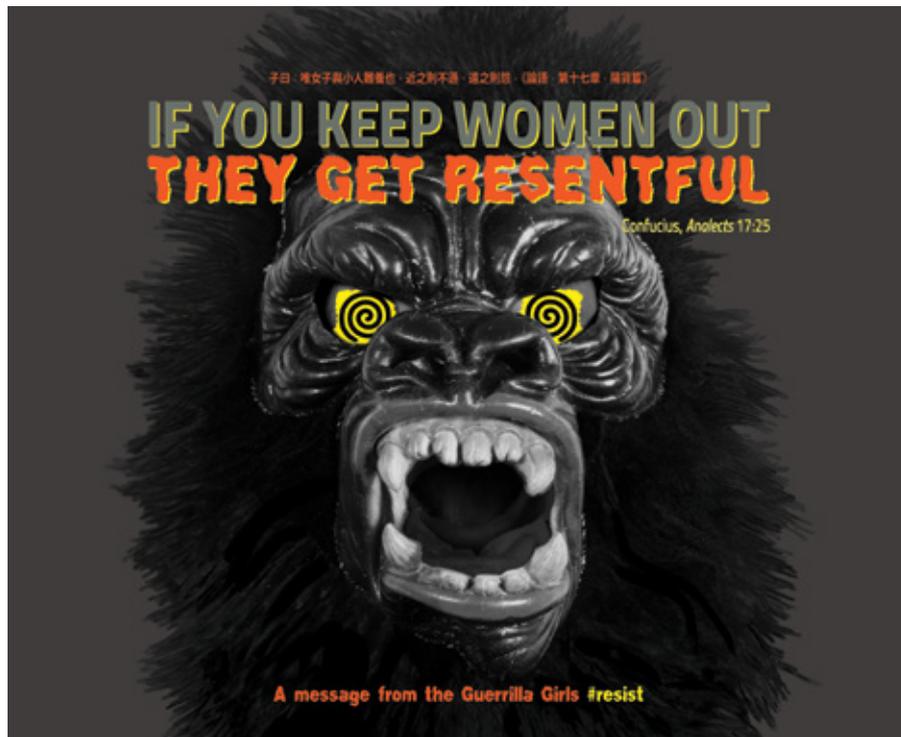


## Guerrilla Girls

### *Guerrilla Girls Forever*



*If You Keep Women Out They Get Resentful*, 2018

We are pleased to inform you that, for the second time, the Guerrilla Girls will occupy the space of mfc-michèle didier.

Since 1985, the Guerrilla Girls have been denouncing a series of behaviours that take place in the art world and which concern sexist and racial discrimination, as well as a series of practices tied to corruption and more generally to politics.

The Guerrilla Girls will be showing at mfc-michèle didier their latest posters and movies.

The complete set entitled *Guerrilla Girls Forever: Poster Suite 2017-2021* includes the following twelve posters and movies:

- *As mulheres precisam estar nuas para entrar no Museu de Arte de São Paulo?*, 2017
- *Las Mujeres Artistas en Ecuador están en la lona*, 2017
- *Dear Boss, No Wonder You Don't Pay Us a Living Wage*, 2018
- *If You Keep Women Out They Get Resentful*, 2018
- *Nach 96 Jahren entdeckt die Kestner Künstlerinnen!*, 2018
- *3 Ways to Write a Wall Label When the Artist Is a Sexual Predator*, 2018
- *Don't Stereotype Me, Malayalam*, 2018
- *Guerrilla Girls' Code of Ethics for Art Museums Monument*, 2018
- *MoMA Loves DaDA Not MaMA*, 2019
- *Jeffrey Epstein, Leon Black and MoMA*, 2019
- *Hollywood Is Still Worse Than the U.S. Senate*, 2019
- *Are there more Naked Women than Women Artists in Art Museums*, 2021
  
- *One Is Not Enough*, Van Gogh Museum, 2017, 02'24"
- *Acts of Police Violence Are Crimes Against Humanity*, 2020, 01'12"
- *The Male Graze*, 2020, 03'04"
- *DiscrimiNation*, 2021, 30"
- *If You Keep Women Out They Get Resentful*, 2021, 30"

mfc-michèle didier

66 rue Notre-Dame de Nazareth, 75003 Paris, France

T + 33 (0)1 71 97 49 13 - M + 33 (0)6 09 94 13 46

info@micheledidier.com - <http://www.micheledidier.com>

## Press release

mfc-michèle didier

**Exhibition** from September 4 to October 9, 2021

**Opening** on Saturday September 4, from 3 pm to 8 pm

The online discussion with the Guerrilla Girls will be on Friday, September 17 at 6pm at the gallery.

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## Guerrilla Girls

*Guerrilla Girls Forever*

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## Press release

mfc-michèle didier



**"Your assignment is to think of something you really want to complain about. Then, communicate your message in a unique, creative way."**

The Guerrilla Girls will also activate, for the first time in France, a *Complaints Department* which they have translated as **Département des plaintes, Bienvenue à Toutes et à Tous**.

The *Département des plaintes* is a device designed to collect complaints and protests in a free and anonymous manner.

The public is invited to write down their grievances on paper and post them on the gallery walls. Rather than confining themselves to their own claims and observations, the Guerrilla Girls leave room here for the construction of a collective protest space.

All the data collected will then be archived and processed by the Guerrilla Girls.

**From September 4th to October 9th 2021, don't hesitate to come and complain under the banner that we produce on this occasion.**

Extract from the interview given at the Tate Gallery in London

Guerrilla Girls: Hi, we're the Guerrilla Girls. And this is your art assignment.

Kathe Kollwitz: Alright, so maybe, basically a lot of us were complainers, but mostly because we saw so much injustice in politics, of course, but also in our own little world of the art world in New York City, where we were artists. And we saw no opportunities for women artists and artists of color, and everyone was pretending that everything was okay. So we got this idea. Let's do something about it. And let's use some new, media-savvy techniques to break through people's ideas that whatever they see in galleries and museums is the best, which we knew so many great artists who weren't getting anywhere. So we decided to blame on group after another. We had this idea to do a new kind of political poster. We had a meeting in Frida's loft of a bunch of colleagues and friends, named ourselves the Guerrilla Girls, passed the hat around to pay to print the first posters, and the Guerrilla Girls were born.

Frida Kahlo: It's more than pointing your finger at something and saying, "This is bad." We have to figure out a way to change people's minds about things. And in the end, humor. If you can make someone who disagrees with you laugh, well, you kind have a hook in their brain, and once you're there, you just have an opportunity to change their minds.

Kathe Kollwitz: Your assignment is to think of something you really want to complain about.

Frida Kahlo: Then, communicate your message in a unique, creative way.

Sarah: So John, I really think that you should just sit and listen for this one.

John: Yeah, no, I agree.

*Continued p.3*

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## Guerrilla Girls

### *Guerrilla Girls Forever*

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## Press release

mfc-michèle didier

Sarah: So if we think back through art history, we can really see a lot of art as various forms of complaining. You can think about abstraction as a way that artists are complaining about the way that things had been represented in the past. And, you know, complaining is really protest. And then that widens our consideration to all sorts of art: historical painting that thinks about war or inequities. But in thinking about what moment in history we're gonna talk about here, I couldn't help but realize I had a very handy resource for this: the Guerrilla Girls' own book *The Bedside Companion to the History of Western Art*. And I'd love to just read you the beginning. It says, "Forget the stale, male, pale, Yale textbooks, this is Art Herstory 101!"

And I've actually selected one of the moments in art history, or art herstory, for us to talk about today from the Middle Ages. At the age of 25, Christine de Pizan found herself widowed with kids and a mother to support. She had been allowed an education, a rarity in medieval France, and became a copyist and writer to support her family. She achieved renown for her ballads, poems, and allegories as well as her vociferous objection to the popular 13th century poem *The Romance of the Rose*, which depicts women as wanton and immoral seductresses. She countered with her 1405 allegory *The City of Ladies*, in which three women personifying reason, rectitude, and justice describe an entire city populated by strong, virtuous women throughout history, told entirely by women and about women. Her story used fashionable tropes and techniques to counter the prevailing narrative of women as illogical and inferior. Rooted in Christian morality, her work got away with its harsh critique of patriarchal society and highlighted women for their skills and discourse in peacemaking.

Like de Pizan, the Guerrilla Girls have found their own mistressful way of complaining in their time. The question is, "What's your way in your time? And how will you use the culture of now to voice your dissatisfaction and dissent?"

Kathe Kollwitz: Alright, so, everyone's always said to the Guerrilla Girls, "You're just a bunch of complainers." So when we were invited to do some kind of interactive residency project at Tate, it suddenly seemed like a really great idea: Why not everyone else complain? We are complainers. We consider ourselves, you know, creative, kind of unique complainers, but it is what we do, and everyone had complaints, so we've invited anyone who wants to come to bring their complaints in, make their complaints, put them on the board, and it took about one day for all the places we have to put them to be filled up. And every day, people are coming with more things that they just have to get off their chest.

Frida Kahlo: It's kind of a rift off the old idea of complaints departments in department stores. It allowed the consumers to sort of complain. Well, we're allowing the audience of this museum to instead of come and be passive to actually come and think critically about what they've seen, about what bothers them, and to really think about how a lot of our art comes out of complaints, comes out of a very strong reaction to the world.

Kathe Kollwitz: You can't really think of a complaint as one thing, one time in a vacuum. One thing we've learned is that if you do one thing, put it out there, if it works you do another, and if it doesn't, you do another. So, this is true for all of us. You can't expect one thing to make a difference, but if you keep doing it, and keep chipping away, over time you can make a difference. Obviously, we have a unique way of trying to find a new idea about an issue, combine it with some weird things that don't really belong there, so you end up thinking about it in a different way. But there are so many ways to complain. I mean, try to stop people from complaining!

Frida Kahlo: It's great to brainstorm with other people, identify a target, realize that you probably can't deal with a huge issue all at once; you can only deal with some small aspect of it. And then to think about who your target audience is. What would catch their attention? What would change their mind? What components would change their mind? Usually, information is a help, and if you can twist something around. You know, you put out an outrageous headline, you back it up, and you try to do it in a way that you've never seen before. And then try it out on other people. Make sure that you're not just convincing yourself. Let other people test drive and say, "What does this communicate to you?" Sometimes being angry and complaining is a good place to start, but it's not a great place to end. You have to craft your message.

Kathe Kollwitz: And I think reading the other complaints, looking at their complaints, thinking about what they complained about is going to have an effect. It's had an effect on me, and I've been complaining for years.

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## Guerrilla Girls

*Guerrilla Girls Forever*

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## Press release

mfc-michèle didier



*Are there more Naked Women than Women Artists in Art Museums, 2021*

### Few biographical contents:

The collective was founded following the exhibition *An International Survey of Painting and Sculpture* at the MoMA in 1984. This exhibition, which was supposed to provide a panorama of the artistic production of the time, only presented 13 women for 169 artists. Kathe Kollwitz and Frida Kahlo joined forces to found the Guerrilla Girls, a collective that over time included different members and developed different branches.

The core of their work is characterized by a number of actions, mainly poster campaigns, performances and videos, as well as a set of objects designed as derivatives of their claims.

Since 1985, their work denounces, based on factual data, the symbolic and political violence in the art world and more generally in the field of culture. Initially focused on gender discrimination, their fight quickly extended to racism, sexual discrimination and more broadly to corruption and influence peddling.

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## Guerrilla Girls

### *Guerrilla Girls Forever*

mfc-michèle didier is an independent publisher established in 1987 in Brussels, who produces and publishes original works by contemporary artists, creating an extensive series of works, such as artist's books, prints, installations, multiples, etc.

Since 2011, mfc-michèle didier gallery, located 66 rue Notre-Dame de Nazareth in Paris, gives the chance to present the publisher's productions and is a place of reflection on the artistic discipline of the artist's book. At the same time, it gives the opportunity to show the importance of ephemera and published, multiplied works in contemporary art.

### Artists

AALLIICCEELLEESS...	JUTTA KOETHER
SAÂDANE AFIF	LEIGH LEDARE
DENNIS ADAMS	ALBAN LE HENRY
CARL ANDRE	CHRISTIAN MARCLAY
FIONA BANNER	LAURENT MARISSAL
ROBERT BARRY	ALLAN MCCOLLUM
BERNARD BAZILE	MATHIEU MERCIER
SAMUEL BIANCHINI	ANNETTE MESSENGER
BLESS	GUSTAV METZGER
MEL BOCHNER	JOHN MILLER
AA BRONSON	JONATHAN MONK
STANLEY BROUWN	ROBERT MORRIS
PHILIPPE CAZAL	ANTONI MUNTADAS
LUDOVIC CHEMARIN©	MAURIZIO NANNUCCI
CLAUDE CLOSKY	PHILIPPE PARRENO
HANNAH COLLINS	RAYMOND PETTIBON
DAVID CUNNINGHAM	MICHELANGELO PISTOLETTO
CHARLES DE MEAUX	HUBERT RENARD
BRACO DIMITRIJEVIC	ALLEN RUPPERSBERG
PETER DOWNSBROUGH	CLAUDE RUTAULT
JEAN-BAPTISTE FARKAS	RAY SANDER
YONA FRIEDMAN	JOE SCANLAN
JAZON FRINGS	KLAUS SCHERÜBEL
PAUL-ARMAND GETTE	CAROLEE SCHNEEMANN
LIAM GILLICK	JIM SHAW
CARI GONZALEZ-CASANOVA	JOSH SMITH
JOSEPH GRIGELY	ROMARIC TISSERAND
THE GUERRILLA GIRLS	UNTEL
CARSTEN HÖLLER	LAWRENCE WEINER
PIERRE HUYGHE	ELSA WERTH
IKHÉA©SERVICES - GLITCH	MARTHA WILSON
ON KAWARA	CHRISTOPHER WOOL
MATT KEEGAN	

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## Press release

mfc-michèle didier

### **mfc-michèle didier - Paris**

66 rue Notre-Dame de Nazareth  
75003 Paris, France  
Téléphone : +33 (0)1 71 27 34 41  
[www.micheledidier.com](http://www.micheledidier.com)

*Open from Tuesday to Saturday, from 12am to 7pm  
Subway: Strasbourg Saint-Denis, Arts et Métiers, République and Temple*

### **Simon Poulain**

[simon@micheledidier.com](mailto:simon@micheledidier.com)  
[info@micheledidier.com](mailto:info@micheledidier.com)

### **mfc-michèle didier - Bruxelles**

19 rue de la Senne  
1000 Bruxelles, Belgique  
Téléphone/Fax : +32 (0)2 374 75 98  
[www.micheledidier.com](http://www.micheledidier.com)

*Open from Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5.30pm  
By appointment only*

### **Benedetta Grazioli**

[benedetta@micheledidier.com](mailto:benedetta@micheledidier.com)  
[info@micheledidier.com](mailto:info@micheledidier.com)

### **Upcoming exhibitions**

Martha Wilson  
*The Political and Performance Art Collection,*  
*Carte blanche and Journals*  
Preview on October 15, 2021 from 6pm to 9pm  
Opening on October 16 from 3pm to 8pm  
Exhibition from October 16, 2021 to January 8, 2022

FIAC  
Stand mfc-michèle didier  
*Carte blanche to Martha Wilson*  
Grand Palais Éphémère  
From October 21 to 24, 2021

Centre Pompidou MNAM, Paris  
*Martha Wilson à Halifax*  
Opening on October 20, 2021  
Exhibition from October 21, 2021 to January 24, 2022

Saadane Afif  
*The Fountain Archives [Index]*  
From January 15 to March 19, 2022