

# GUGGENHEIM

## Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation

### Fact Sheet

#### Mission Statement

The mission of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation is to promote the understanding and appreciation of art, architecture, and other manifestations of visual culture, primarily of the modern and contemporary periods, and to collect, conserve, and study the art of our time. The foundation realizes this mission through exceptional exhibitions, education programs, research initiatives, and publications, and strives to engage and educate an increasingly diverse international audience through its unique network of museums and cultural partnerships.

#### Summary

In 1937, Solomon R. Guggenheim established a foundation empowered to operate a museum that would publicly exhibit and preserve his holdings of nonobjective art. Today the Guggenheim exists as museums in multiple locations with access to shared collections, common constituencies, and joint programming.

Currently the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation owns and operates the Guggenheim Museum on Fifth Avenue in New York and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection on the Grand Canal in Venice, and provides programming and management for the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. The Deutsche Guggenheim in Berlin is the result of a collaboration, begun in 1997, between the Guggenheim Foundation and Deutsche Bank. The Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, a 452,000-square-foot museum of modern and contemporary art designed by Frank Gehry, is currently in development and will open on Saadiyat Island, adjacent to the main island of Abu Dhabi city, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. In addition, the Guggenheim Foundation extends its reach through institutional alliances with the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, and the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, Austria; its expanding permanent collection; and a vigorous and diverse special exhibitions and education program.

Since 1992, the Guggenheim Foundation has presented more than 300 exhibitions. These projects have encompassed definitive retrospectives of and major installations by prominent American and international artists, including Matthew Barney, Georg Baselitz, Louise Bourgeois, Daniel Buren, Cai Guo-Qiang, Francesco Clemente, Dan Flavin, Jenny Holzer, Ellsworth Kelly, Roy Lichtenstein, Mario Merz, Robert Morris, Claes Oldenburg, Nam June Paik, Richard Prince, Robert Rauschenberg, James

Rosenquist, and David Smith; historical surveys of 20th-century art, such as *The Great Utopia: The Russian and Soviet Avant-Garde, 1915–1932* (1992–93), *Picasso and the Age of Iron* (1993), *The Italian Metamorphosis, 1943–1968* (1994–95), *Abstraction in the Twentieth Century: Total Risk, Freedom, Discipline* (1996), *Kazimir Malevich: Suprematism* (2003), and *Chaos and Classicism: Art in France, Italy, and Germany, 1918–1936* (2010–11); and exhibitions that have presented the artistic heritage of many countries and regions, such as *Africa: The Art of a Continent* (1996), *China: 5,000 Years* (1998), *Brazil: Body & Soul* (2001–02), *The Aztec Empire* (2004–05), *RUSSIA!* (2005–06), and *Spanish Painting from El Greco to Picasso: Time, Truth, and History* (2006–07). Since 2000, Guggenheim-organized exhibitions have been presented in more than 80 museums around the world. As a result of these expanded sites and programs, the Guggenheim has more than tripled its global attendance. With nearly three million annual visitors worldwide, the Guggenheim and its network of museums is one of the most visited cultural institutions in the world.

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT

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