



Office of Institutional Advancement

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JUDY CHICAGO TO DELIVER COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AT THE SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

CHICAGO—The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), a global leader in art and design education, will welcome celebrated artist Judy Chicago to deliver the School's commencement address on Monday, May 14, at Wintrust Arena, 200 East Cermak Road. Chicago, who was recently named one of Time's 100 Most Influential People of 2018, will receive an honorary doctorate from the School, along with esteemed honorees, iconic Peruvian artist and SAIC alum Teresa Burga, critically acclaimed artist and SAIC alum Rashid Johnson, and renowned architect Stanley Tigerman.

Since 1938 SAIC has awarded honorary degrees to an elite group of individuals who have made significant contributions to art, design, scholarship and culture. Past recipients include Marina Abramovic, Tania Bruguera, Jeanne Gang, Theaster Gates, Jeff Koons, Kerry James Marshall, Albert Oehlen, Yoko Ono, David Sedaris, Patti Smith, and Kanye West.

"The School of the Art Institute of Chicago is honored to welcome Judy Chicago, Stanley Tigerman, Rashid Johnson, and Teresa Burga into the class of 2018," said Elissa Tenny, president of SAIC. "Through their work and scholarship, these citizen artists address contemporary issues and exemplify the values that make SAIC a school of art and design that is distinct from any other."

More than 900 students are expected to receive undergraduate and graduate degrees and post-baccalaureate certificates from the prestigious art and design institution.

About the Honorees

To see the full biographies of the honorees, please visit saic.edu/graduation.

Teresa Burga (MFA 1970) is a Peruvian multimedia artist whose pop-art inflected, research-intensive works have put her on the forefront of conceptual and experimental practices. A founding member of the Grupo Arte Nuevo, a Peruvian avant-garde movement that lasted from 1966–68, Burga was instrumental in introducing pop art, op art, and happenings to the Peruvian art scene. For her seminal work *Perfil de la mujer Peruana (Profile of the Peruvian Woman)* from 1981, she collaborated with psychotherapist Marie-France Cathelat to create a multimedia installation and publication based on data collected from surveys and research about the lives of Peruvian women.

Judy Chicago (commencement speaker) is an artist, author of 14 books, educator, and humanist whose work and life are models for an enlarged definition of art, an expanded role for the artist, and women's right to freedom of expression. Chicago is most well-known for her role in creating a feminist art and art education program in California during the early 1970s, and for her monumental work *The Dinner Party*, executed between 1974–79. Chicago's work has been exhibited widely in the United States and internationally and her continued influence has, in recent years, been increasingly acknowledged.

Rashid Johnson (SAIC 2003–04) is among an influential cadre of contemporary American artists whose work employs a wide range of media to explore themes of art history, individual and shared cultural identities, personal narratives, literature, philosophy, materiality, and critical history. Johnson's work is known for its narrative and embedding of a

pointed range of everyday materials and objects, often associated with his childhood and frequently referencing collective aspects of African American intellectual history and cultural identity.

Stanley Tigerman is a principal in the Chicago architectural and design firm of Tigerman McCurry Architects and a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) as well as the Society of Architectural Historians. Designing projects throughout North America, Europe, and Asia, he is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from AIA Chicago among other awards. In addition to being an author, lecturer, and visiting chaired professor at numerous universities, Tigerman was a founding member of the “Chicago Seven” architects, director of the School of Architecture at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and cofounder of Archeworks, a socially orientated design laboratory and school.

About the School of the Art Institute of Chicago

For more than 150 years, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) has been a leader in educating the world’s most influential artists, designers and scholars. Located in downtown Chicago with a fine arts graduate program consistently ranking among the top programs in the nation by U.S. News and World Report, SAIC provides an interdisciplinary approach to art and design as well as world-class resources, including the Art Institute of Chicago museum, on-campus galleries and state-of-the-art facilities. SAIC’s undergraduate, graduate and post-baccalaureate students have the freedom to take risks and create the bold ideas that transform Chicago and the world—as seen through notable alumni and faculty such as Michelle Grabner, David Sedaris, Elizabeth Murray, Richard Hunt, Georgia O’Keeffe, Cynthia Rowley, Nick Cave, Jeff Koons, and LeRoy Neiman.

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