LACMA

PRESS RELEASE

LACMA's 15th Annual Art+Film Gala Honors Vija Celmins and Denis Villeneuve and Raises a Record-Breaking Near $7 Million

More than 600 Guests Attended the Event, Co-chaired by Eva Chow and Leonardo DiCaprio, with a Performance by ROSÉ



(Image captions on page 5)

(Los Angeles, CA—November 8, 2026) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) hosted its 15th annual Art+Film Gala on November 7, 2026, bringing together more than 600 luminaries from the worlds of art, film, fashion, entertainment, and other creative fields to honor artist Vija Celmins and filmmaker Denis Villeneuve, and featuring a special performance by musical guest ROSÉ. LACMA trustee Eva Chow and Leonardo DiCaprio returned as co-chairs of the gala, which raised nearly $7 million to support LACMA's efforts to make film more central to its curatorial programming, as well as the museum's broader mission. The 2026

Art+Film Gala was presented by Gucci, which has partnered with LACMA on the event since its inception in 2011. Additional support for the gala was provided by Audi, including transportation in the Q9 Fleet.

“It was a privilege to recognize the extraordinary careers of Vija Celmins and Denis Villeneuve, whose work can alter our perception of the visual world, or transport us to worlds of the imagination,” said LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director Michael Govan. “This unique event has become a beloved tradition at LACMA thanks to the leadership of our co-chairs Eva Chow and Leonardo DiCaprio, and I’m so grateful for their dedication to this gala and the museum.”

“It means so much to me how many friends and supporters come from all over the world to celebrate art and film at LACMA every year,” said gala co-chair Eva Chow. “The spirited tributes to our honorees brought us to our feet, and the electrifying performance by ROSÉ made it a magical night! This event would not be possible without our partner Gucci, and I give my deepest thanks to Demna and the House’s team for their continued generosity to LACMA and belief in its mission.”

Proceeds from the Art+Film Gala support LACMA’s film initiatives and future exhibitions, acquisitions, and programming.

Guests arriving at the gala took photos against the luminous backdrop of Chris Burden’s *Urban Light* (2008) before joining a bustling cocktail reception on the Smidt Welcome Plaza. In the dinner pavilion overlooking Michael Heizer’s *Levitated Mass* (2012), guests enjoyed a special menu by Savore Cuisine & Catering.

While welcoming attendees, Michael Govan announced the recent installation of new public art on the Paris Hilton and Carter Reum Terrace. Thanks to LACMA trustee Reum and Hilton’s generous support, Shio Kusaka’s *Beam*, a clay flying saucer with a yellow beam of light, is poised to welcome families to the W.M. Keck Education Center.

Govan then gave a special tribute to Eva Chow, whose vision as co-chair of the Art+Film Gala for 15 years has defined the event.

“Eva, you were the one who could bring together so many artists, filmmakers, designers, and creatives, and your art continues to be about bringing creative worlds together,” said Govan.

Chow then joined the stage and expressed her gratitude to the many sponsors and friends who supported the museum over the years. She then announced that this will be her last year as co-chair.

Chow said, “Seeing the gala become one of Los Angeles's most celebrated traditions and has been one of the great privileges of my life. I leave this chapter with tremendous pride, and above all, gratitude. I hope the gala will continue to grow and inspire future generations, bringing together the world of art and film for many years to come.”

Later in the program, novelist Rachel Kushner offered remarks about Vija Celmins and introduced a film about the artist by Alison Chernick.

"I’m very happy to be honored here,” said Celmins. “Los Angeles had a big influence on me. I had never lived next to the ocean and I had never seen the land, and it sort of crept into my work.”

Nicole Kidman then spoke in tribute to Denis Villeneuve, followed by highlights from his films.

“When a museum, a temple for artists, welcomes a filmmaker and puts the spotlight on cinema, it means a great deal to me,” Villeneuve said. “Especially this museum, because LACMA has already given me so much.”

As the dinner concluded, Govan invited guests outside where Paris Hilton introduced musical guest ROSÉ. The superstar’s set included the live debut of her new single *New Trick*, followed by global hits such as *Number One Girl*, a cover of The Killers’ *Read My Mind*, and her award-winning song *APT*.

Notable figures from the art world and the Los Angeles community attending the 2026 Art+Film Gala included Mert Alas, Refik Anadol, Lori Bettison-Varga, Efsun Erkılıç, Delfin Finley, Kohshin Finley, Ron Finley, Laura Friedman, Charles Gaines, Thelma Golden, James Goldstein, Lauren Halsey, Lindsey Horvath, Jacqueline Humphries, Alex Israel, Sydney Kamlager-Dove, T Kelly Mason, Holly J. Mitchell, Catherine Opie, Helen Pashgian, Paul Pfeiffer, Ann Philbin, Alexandra Prager, Christina Quarles, Calida Rawles, Gerald Rawles, Sarah Rosalena, Harmonia Rosales, Ed Ruscha, Katherine Ross, Zoë Ryan, Antwaun Sargent, Kenny Scharf, Cameron Shaw, Diana Thater, Mickalene Thomas, Walter Timoshuk, Honor Titus, Darren Walker, Jonas Wood, Kulapat Yantrasast, and Katy Yaroslavsky.

In addition to Eva Chow, LACMA trustees attending the event included Rebecka Belldegrun, Allison Berg, Thelma Golden, Susan Hess, Victoria Jackson, Dominic Ng, Carter Reum, Florence Sloan, Wendy Stark Morrissey, Casey Wasserman, and Jeff Yabuki.

Guests from the fashion, entertainment, sports, music, and business worlds at this year's event included 2Hollis, Malin Akerman, Anna Anissimova, Odessa A'zion, Monica Barbaro, Curry Barker, Vivian Benitez, Quenlin Blackwell, Orlando Bloom, Quinta Brunson, Álvaro Lafuente Calvo (Guitarricadelafuente), Javier Calvo, Devon Lee Carlson, Sofia Carson, Vittoria Ceretti, Timothee Chalamet, Asia Chow, Alex Consani, Viola Davis, Gia Coppola, Alix Earle, Joel Edgerton, Esther Francis, Jordan Firstman, Andrew Garfield, Julia Garner, Homer Gere, Ludwig Göransson, Alexandra Shungudzo Govere, Oli Green, Josh Grode, Lucy Guo, Paris Hilton, Elsa Hosk, Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, Aurora James, Kylie Jenner, Spike Jonze, Kim Kardashian, Fai Khadra, Chloe Kim, Ji-Eun Kim, Iris Law, Monica Lewinsky, Lisa Love, Loki, Alton Mason, Stella Maxwell, Isabel May, Sienna Miller, Dheer Momaya, Ottessa Moshfegh, Olivia Munn, NINGNING, Anderson .Paak, Al Pacino, Mary Parent, Ashley Park, Park Bo-Gum, Soo Joo Park, Amy Pascal, Sarah Paulson, Chris Perfetti, François-Henri Pinault, Salma Hayek Pinault, Parker Posey, Anthony Ramos, Emily Ratajkowski, Dan Reynolds, Jose Rios, Hrithik Roshan, Axl Rose, Adeline Rudolph, Daniel Scheinert, Rufus Sewell, Alia Shawkat, Irina Shayk, Benito Skinner, Brittany Snow, Candice Swanepoel, Anya Taylor-Joy, Julius Tennon, Amber Valletta, Sofia Vergara, Lindsey Vonn, Emma Watson, Tyriq Withers, Jordyn Woods-Towns, Jason Wu, and Yoshiki.

Wearing Gucci to the 2026 Art+Film Gala were Eva Chow, Vija Celmins, Denis Villeneuve, Demna, Francesca Bellettini, and Michael Govan, as well as 2Hollis, Refik Anadol, Javier Ambrossi, Monica Barbaro, Curry Barker, Jordan Barrett, Quenlin Blackwell, Javier Calvo, Devon Carlson, Vittoria Ceretti, Timothee Chalamet, Alex Consani, Viola Davis, Alix Earle, Andrew Garfield, Homer Gere, Oli Green, Lucy Guo, Elsa Hosk, Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, Spike Jonze, Kim Kardashian, Fai Khadra, Rachel Kushner, Tanya Lapointe, Loki, Lisa Love, Alton Mason, Isabel May, Meredith Mickelson, Sienna Miller, Ottessa Moshfegh, NINGNING, Park Bo-Gum, Soo Joo Park, Sarah Paulson, François-Henri Pinault, Salma Hayek Pinault, Parker Posey, Emily Ratajkowski, Alia Shawkat, Stephanie Suganami, Candice Swanepoel, Julius Tennon, Malcolm Todd, Amber Valletta, Lindsey Vonn, Tyriq Withers, and Jordyn Woods-Towns.

Wines by JUSTIN Vineyards & Winery. Signature cocktails by Tequila Don Julio. Additional beverages by FIJI Water and POM Wonderful.

About Vija Celmins

Vija Celmins (b. 1938) has long been admired for her meticulous renderings of natural imagery, including ocean waves, desert floors, and night skies. Her paintings, sculptures, drawings, and prints depict scenes that are too vast or mercurial to be fixed in the mind's eye. She first became interested in representing the visible world during the early 1960s, when she began to paint the objects in her Los Angeles studio before turning her attention to photographs found in magazines and history

books. By the end of the 1960s, she had set aside paint on canvas in favor of graphite on paper. When she began painting again in the 1980s, drawing and printmaking remained central to her art. Celmins has had one-person exhibitions at numerous museums, including the Institute of Contemporary Art in Philadelphia, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Fondation Beyeler in Basel, the Centre Pompidou in Paris, and the Menil Collection in Houston. She was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1996 and received a MacArthur Fellowship in 1997.

About Denis Villeneuve

Denis Villeneuve is an Academy Award®-nominated director, screenwriter, and producer whose masterful world-building and unique visuals have established him as one of the premier filmmakers working today. He has built his career on films that blend cerebral storytelling with visceral cinematic experience, including *Sicario*, *Blade Runner 2049*, *Prisoners*, and *Arrival*, which earned him a Best Director nomination. In 2021, *DUNE: PART ONE* earned six Academy Awards® and multiple guild and critics' awards. Its sequel, *DUNE: PART TWO*, expanded with bolder visual ambition and complexity, surpassing over $700 million worldwide and winning two Academy Awards®, with additional recognition from BAFTA, Critics' Choice and major guilds. Villeneuve will conclude the trilogy with *DUNE: PART THREE* in December, reuniting its core cast. He is also set to direct the next James Bond film for Amazon MGM Studios.

About LACMA: Located on the Pacific Rim, LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of 155,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of artistic expression across the globe. Committed to showcasing a multitude of art histories, LACMA exhibits and interprets works of art from new and unexpected points of view that are informed by the region's rich cultural heritage and diverse population. LACMA's spirit of experimentation is reflected in its work with artists, technologists, and thought leaders as well as in its regional, national, and global partnerships to share collections and programs, create pioneering initiatives, and engage new audiences.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. lacma.org

Image caption: (Left to right) Gucci President and CEO Francesca Bellettini, Honoree Denis Villeneuve; Honoree Vija Celmins; Gala Co-Chair Eva Chow; Gucci Creative Director Demna; LACMA CEO and Director Michael Govan, photo by Jojo Korsh/BFA.com

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About Gucci: Founded in Florence, Italy, in 1921, Gucci is one of the world's leading luxury brands. Under the leadership of President and CEO Francesca Bellettini and the artistic direction of Demna, the House continues to redefine luxury and fashion while celebrating creativity, Italian craftsmanship, and innovation. Gucci is part of global luxury group Kering, which brings together people whose passion and expertise nurture creative Houses across couture, ready-to-wear, leather goods, jewelry, eyewear and beauty. Discover more about Gucci at www.gucci.com.