

E L

M U S E O

G A L A

2 0 1 7

This year's Gala will celebrate the tremendous contribution of women to the arts and builds on a series of programs El Museo has developed to elevate women artists. Over the last two years, El Museo has organized retrospectives and major surveys of works by outstanding women artists. The surveys span decades of an artist's career and have been accompanied by public programs and a book publication with new scholarship that positions and conveys the import of the artist's contributions to the field. So far, El Museo's Women Artist Retrospective Series has highlighted the work of Latina artists including Marisol Escobar and Gloria Rodriguez Calero. This winter season, El Museo del Barrio announced its most recent exhibition in the series: *A Universe of Fragile Mirrors*, on the work of Beatriz Santiago Muñoz.

GALA CHAIRS

Tony Bechara
Nohra Haime
William A. Haseltine
Maria Eugenia Maury
Clarice Oliveira Tavares

REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY AT EL MUSEO GALA 2017

HONORING CARMEN HERRERA

Artist
Lifetime Artistic Achievement

NANCY GONZALEZ

Designer, Founder of Nancy Gonzalez
Excellence in Fashion

ELIZABETH NIETO

Global Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer, MetLife
MetLife Foundation
Excellence in Philanthropy

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO

Speaker of the New York City Council
Excellence in Public Service

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2017

COCKTAILS: 7PM
DINNER: 8PM
AFTER PARTY: 10PM

THE PLAZA HOTEL

768 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

BLACK TIE

CARMEN HERRERA

Carmen Herrera was born in Havana, Cuba in 1915. She moved frequently between France and Cuba throughout the 1930s and 1940s; having started studying architecture at the Universidad de La Habana, Havana, Cuba (1938–39), she trained at the Art Students League in New York (1942–43), before exhibiting five times at the Salon des Réalités Nouvelles, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France (1949–53). She settled in New York in 1954, where she continues to live and work. Herrera's paintings were recently the subject of a large-scale survey at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City, which traveled to the Wexner Center for the Arts in Columbus, Ohio, and closes on April 16, 2017. A selection of Herrera's recent paintings inaugurated Lisson Gallery's New York space in May 2016. She has also had solo exhibitions at Museum Pfalzgalerie Kaiserslautern, Kaiserslautern, Germany (2010); Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK (2009); and Museo del Barrio, New York City, USA (1998). Her work is in numerous public and private collections including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Tate Collection, London; the Hirshhorn Museum, Washington DC; The Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington D.C., the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, and the Pérez Art Museum, Miami.

NANCY GONZALEZ

Nancy Gonzalez, eponymous with vibrant color and luxurious textures has become one of the most celebrated handbag designers in the world. Known for her innovative use of precious skins and distinct color palette, her handbags have become instant classics. She is a pioneer not only in her approach to design but also how she conducts her business. She has successfully created a new category in accessories. Her approach is similar to ready-to-wear, presenting three distinct collections a year. Each one consists of 150 new styles, thereby creating a modern approach to luxury accessories. Additionally, Nancy Gonzalez was the first Latin American luxury accessory designer to produce in Latin America and sell to the best luxury retailers which positions her collection alongside the most prestigious European brands.

Nancy Gonzalez was awarded Brand of the Year in November 2007 and Innovator of the Year in November 2015 by the Accessories Council. Acknowledgement has also come from museums, such as The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which have collected her designs underlining the pertinence of her work within a historical and artistic context.

ELIZABETH NIETO

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
GLOBAL CHIEF DIVERSITY & INCLUSION OFFICER
METLIFE, INC.**

Elizabeth assumed the role of Global Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer at MetLife in June 2012. Since then, the company has defined and implemented their first global D&I strategy supported by MetLife CEO and the Board of Directors. The strategy focuses on the development of women globally and regional initiatives (e.g. ethnic and racial diversity, LGBTQ, people with different abilities, veterans). In the last four years, the company has progressed in all the diversity and inclusion metrics and continues to be highlighted as a best practice in talent development.



MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO

SPEAKER OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

Melissa Mark-Viverito serves as Speaker of the New York City Council, representing El Barrio/East Harlem and portions of the South Bronx. She was elected to office in 2005, and elected to the Speakership in 2014. She is the first woman of color to hold the position, and the highest ranked woman of color in citywide office. Mark-Viverito is a founding member of the Progressive Caucus, and a member of the Black, Latino and Asian Caucus (BLAC). She is a native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and moved to New York City at the age of 18 to attend college. She received a BA in Political Science and Government from Columbia University and a Master of Public Administration from Baruch College CUNY.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Maria Eugenia Maury *Chair*

Pablo J. Farías *1st Vice Chair*

Claudia Marmolejo *2nd Vice Chair*

Alfonso Barros *Treasurer*

Héctor R. Cordero-Guzmán *Secretary*

Tony Bechara

Angela Cabrera

Manuel Camelo Hernandez

Doris A. Casap

Alejandra Castro Rioseco

Hon. Michael J. García

Maria Teresa Mata

Christine Miller Martin

Jeffrey Mercado

Carmen P. Nelson

Maria-Leticia Ossa Daza

Ramiro Ortíz Mayorga

Susana de la Puente

Yasmin Ramirez *Mayoral Appointee*

Clara Rodriguez

Yolanda Santos

Juliana Siqueira de Sá

Stanley T. Stairs

EX OFFICIO

Hon. Bill de Blasio

Hon. Gale Brewer

Hon. Tom Finkelpearl

HONORARY MEMBERS

Carmen Ana Unanue

Susana Torruella Leval

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Carlos Gálvez

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Berta Colón