GUGGENHEIM

NEWS RELEASE

Maurizio Cattelan Emerges from Self-Imposed Retirement with New Work to Be Installed in the Guggenheim

UPDATE: Due to technical difficulties with the production process, the presentation of *Maurizio Cattelan: "America,"* originally scheduled to open May 4, has been delayed.

(NEW YORK, NY – May 3, 2016)—Maurizio Cattelan, often described as the art world's resident prankster and provocateur, emerges from a five-year retirement with a new, site-specific work that will be installed at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum on a date to be announced. For *Maurizio Cattelan: "America"* the artist replaces a toilet in one of the museum's public restrooms with a fully functional replica cast in solid gold. The installation is the first artwork Cattelan has produced since his 2011–12 Guggenheim retrospective, *Maurizio Cattelan: All*, which initiated the artist's self-imposed exile.

"America" is organized by Nancy Spector, former Deputy Director and Jennifer and David Stockman Chief Curator, Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation.

Support for *Maurizio Cattelan: "America"* is provided by Stefan Edlis and Gael Neeson, Wendy Fisher, Marian Goodman Gallery, Dakis and Lietta Joannou, Galerie Perrotin, Beth Swofford, and Dasha Zhukova.

The new work makes available to the public an extravagant luxury product seemingly intended for the 1 percent. Its participatory nature, in which viewers are invited to make use of the fixture individually and privately, allows for an experience of unprecedented intimacy with an artwork. Cattelan's toilet offers a wink to the excesses of the art market, but also evokes the American dream of opportunity for all, its utility ultimately reminding us of the inescapable physical realities of our shared humanity.

As an art historical gesture, "*America"* references Marcel Duchamp's *Fountain* (1917), a urinal presented as sculptural readymade. Created nearly a century after Duchamp's seminal work, Cattelan's installation may be understood as countering the artistic transgression of *Fountain* by restoring the utility of their shared subject. *"America"* also alludes to Piero Manzoni's examination of creative labor and value in the series *Artist's Shit* (1961), in which Manzoni allegedly canned his own excrement and sold each container at a price equal to its weight in gold.

On the occasion of this new installation, the Guggenheim is producing a revised edition of the catalogue *Maurizio Cattelan: All*. Originally published to accompany Cattelan's 2011–12 retrospective at the museum, the catalogue has become the definitive source on his work. This new volume, which will be distinguished by a reworked cover design and will include images of the *All* installation and a revised Coda by Nancy Spector, will be released in fall 2016.

About the Artist

Maurizio Cattelan (b. 1960, Padua, Italy), lives and works in New York and Milan. Unafraid to tackle taboo subject matter in visually seductive presentations, Cattelan has created some of the most unforgettable images in recent contemporary art. The first retrospective of the artist's work, *Maurizio Cattelan: All*, was organized by the Guggenheim Museum and was on view from November 2011 to January 2012. It featured 130 works—examples of virtually everything the artist had produced since 1989—and presented them en masse, strung seemingly haphazardly from the oculus of the museum's rotunda. Other solo exhibitions of Cattelan's work have been organized by the Museum of Modern Art, New York (1998); Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (2000); Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam (2001); Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2001–03); P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center (now MoMA PS1), New York (2002); Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles (2003); Musée du Louvre, Paris (2004); Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt (2008); The Menil Collection, Houston (2010); and Fondation Beyeler, Basel (2013). His work has also been featured in such exhibitions as the Venice Biennale (1993, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2003, and 2011), SITE Santa Fe (1997), Manifesta 2 (1998), Istanbul Biennial (1998), Kunsthalle Basel (1999), Whitney Biennial (2004), and *theanyspacewhatever* at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2008).

About the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation

Founded in 1937, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation is dedicated to promoting the understanding and appreciation of art, primarily of the modern and contemporary periods, through exhibitions, education programs, research initiatives, and publications. The Guggenheim network that began in the 1970s when the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, was joined by the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, has since expanded to include the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao (opened 1997), and the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi (currently in development). The Guggenheim Foundation continues to forge international collaborations that celebrate contemporary art, architecture, and design within and beyond the walls of the museum, including the Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative and The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Chinese Art Initiative. More information about the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation can be found at guggenheim.org.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Admission: Adults $25, students/seniors (65+) $18, members and children under 12 free. The Guggenheim's free app, available with admission or by download to personal devices, offers an enhanced visitor experience. The app features content on special exhibitions as well as access to more than 1,600 works in the Guggenheim's permanent collection. Additionally, information about the museum's landmark building is available in English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish. Verbal Description guides for select exhibitions are also included for visitors who are blind or have low vision. The Guggenheim app is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Museum Hours: Sun–Wed, 10 am–5:45 pm; Fri, 10 am–5:45 pm; Sat, 10 am–7:45 pm; closed Thurs. On Saturdays, beginning at 5:45 pm, the museum hosts Pay What You Wish. For general information, call 212 423 3500 or visit the museum online at: guggenheim.org.
guggenheim.org/social

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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