



**ANNUAL AWARD LUNCHEON | APRIL 17, 2019**

**HONORING | JOHNETTA BETSCH COLE, PHD & MICKALENE THOMAS**

### **MICKALENE THOMAS BIO**

Mickalene Thomas is a 2015 United States Artists Francie Bishop Good & David Horvitz Fellow, and 2018 New York Academy of Art Honorary Doctorate recipient. She is a distinguished visual artist, filmmaker, and curator who has exhibited extensively both nationally and internationally and is known for paintings that combine art-historical, political, and pop-cultural references. Her work introduces complex notions of femininity and challenges common definitions of beauty and aesthetic representations of women.

Thomas holds an MFA from Yale University and a BFA from Pratt Institute. She's held solo museum exhibitions at the Brooklyn Museum, Aspen Museum, and L'Ecole des Beaux Arts, Monaco. Recent solo exhibitions include "*Mickalene Thomas: I Can't See You Without Me*" at Wexner Center for the Arts, "*Mickalene Thomas: Do I Look Like a Lady?*" at MOCA Grand, Los Angeles; "*Mickalene Thomas: Mentors, Muses and Celebrities*" at Aspen Art Museum and Spelman College, and "Muse: Mickalene Thomas Photographs" at Aperture Foundation, New York, which is scheduled to travel to several venues across the United States through 2019 and features her notably curated exhibition, tête-à-tête. Other recent shows include the group exhibitions "Figuring History" at the Seattle Art Museum, and "You Are Here" at the North Carolina Museum of Art. Thomas's work is in the permanent collections of New York's Museum of Modern Art, Brooklyn Museum, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Whitney Museum of American Art, Hammer Museum, and Smithsonian American Art Museum, among many others. She is also currently working on a solo exhibition at the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Thomas is represented by Lehmann Maupin, New York and Hong Kong; Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris and Brussels; and Yancey Richardson Gallery, New York. She lives and works in New York.