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Remarks for ArtTable New Leadership Award
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I am often asked about art and social change. (Some of us don't believe in progress narratives, and are suspicious of the limitations of a hopey-changey agenda.) To paraphrase the old feminist WH Auden, "Art makes nothing happen."

Yet art remains central to my life. Art is central to life itself. Art offers narratives of beauty and power that help us see and understand what this moment is, shift our perspective, break open ordinary living, throwing the status quo into question. At Visual AIDS we understood that art and artists often enabled conversation about the very issues we are most uncomfortable exploring.

We are all here because art is an experience that we long for, that has shaped our lives. We are here because we are compelled to extend this experience.

Museums and arts organizations are civic institutions and increasing participation of women of all backgrounds in all arenas of culture is why we work to see women leaders succeed.

ICA is a renowned, non-collecting contemporary museum. We focus on underrepresented and overlooked artists. As our Program Curator wonderfully articulated – we present work that has not yet been digested by the market or criticism. What we do makes history.

I thank ArtTable's founding membership and the advocates and artists who came before me – those who challenged me to work harder, those who I admired and studied: Barbara Hunt, Elaine Kim, Jenny Dixon, Lowery Simms, Susanna Torruella Leval, Connie Llewlyn, Lisa Dent.

I understand this award is more than a recognition of my past achievements. I accept it as encouragement towards new creative leadership. I aim to continue the work you have done to make this field wider and deeper, and will put forth my best efforts to do so.