



## PRESS RELEASE

### ARTTABLE BRINGS TOGETHER NOTABLE WOMEN IN THE ARTS FOR 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BENEFIT AND AWARD CEREMONY

**BENEFIT WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018**

**New York, NY—** ArtTable, the foremost professional organization dedicated to the advancement of professional women in the visual arts, will hold its annual benefit and award ceremony on **Thursday, April 26, 2018** in **New York City**, honoring two extraordinary industry leaders. Legendary gallerist, **Marian Goodman**, will receive the Distinguished Service to the Visual Arts Award, which will be presented by artist **Julie Mehertu**. ArtTable is also recognizing the highly respected **Naima J. Keith**, deputy director and chief curator of the California African American Museum, with the 2018 New Leadership Award. In this position and in her former role as associate curator at The Studio Museum in Harlem, Naima has established an impressive curatorial career and is widely recognized for her contributions to the field of African American art history. **Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole**, the director emerita of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and president emerita of Spelman College and Bennett College, will deliver the keynote address.

Since its inception, ArtTable has championed leadership opportunities for women in the arts, as well as advocated inclusion for women from diverse backgrounds. Beginning as a grassroots networking effort in 1980, ArtTable has grown to a national network of over 1,200 women with chapters across the country fostering a dynamic and thriving future.

The April benefit event marks the 25th year of ArtTable's annual ceremony, which was first held in 1993. That year, ArtTable presented its first award to Kitty Carlisle Hart, who was at that time the Chairperson of the New York State Council on the Arts. The list of past benefit honorees also includes a range of dynamic and influential women in the arts such as: Patricia E. Harris, Emily K. Rafferty, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Dianne Pilgrim, Joan Mondale, Stephanie French, Lucy Lippard, Marcia Tucker, Paula Cooper, Iris Cantor, Linda Nochlin, Elizabeth Baker, Elizabeth A. Sackler, Vishakha N. Desai, Toby Devan Lewis, Yoko Ono, Lila Harnett, Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, Marguerite Steed Hoffman, Melva Bucksbaum and Raymond Learsy, Marieluise Hessel, and Lowery Stokes Sims.

In 2005, a new award, the New Leadership Award, was added, which recognizes emerging professionals demonstrating exceptional leadership. ArtTable's spring benefit has become the signature annual benefit celebrating the contributions and accomplishments of professional women working in the field visual arts, and this year, ArtTable is privileged to honor both Marian Goodman and Naima J. Keith for their myriad accomplishments and contributions to our industry.

ArtTable executive director Ada Ciniglio notes, "As I near the end of my six-year term at ArtTable, I'm struck once again by the extraordinary women whom we have honored and who are our

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members. To me, both Marian and Naima personify the qualities that I have found in so many of these women--a generous spirit, a drive to accomplishment, and a social conscience.”

## **About the Event**

Thursday, April 26, 2018, 11AM-2PM  
583 Park Avenue at 64th Street, New York NY

For additional information and tickets, please visit ArtTable’s website:  
[www.arttable.org/atbenefit2018](http://www.arttable.org/atbenefit2018)

## **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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