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"STILL LIFE WITH TWO OWLS (MOCA)," 2016, **Jonas Wood**
RENDERING, COURTESY OF THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES

As 2016 drew to a close, the exterior façade of the Arata Isozaki-designed **MOCA Grand Avenue** building (1986) was transformed with the installation of a massive vinyl reproduction of Los Angeles painter **Jonas Wood's** "Still life with Two Owls," (2014). The work, covering an estimated 5,200 square feet, will remain on view for approximately one year.

The **Whitney Museum of American Art** has announced the full list of participating artists for the **2017 Whitney Biennial**. The upcoming event, co-curated by associate curator at the Whitney, Christopher Y. Lew and independent curator Mia Locks, is the first to be held in the museum's new down-

town location. Thematic concerns addressed in the exhibition include "the formation of self and the individual's place in a turbulent society" with works by 63 participants, ranging from emerging to well-established artists and collectives working in both traditional and experimental media.

The **Smithsonian American Art Museum** announced the gift of 93 works of art from the collection of the late **Margaret Z. Robson**, marking the largest acquisition of self-taught artworks in 20 years to the institution. The Robson gift, donated by the collector's son, includes paintings, drawings and sculptures by 48 major self-taught artists, including James Castle, Ulysses Davis, Thornton Dial

Sr., William Edmondson, Howard Finster, Bessie Harvey, Leroy Person, Judith Scott, and Bill Traylor.

The **Saint Louis Art Museum** announced the acquisition of *Detached III* (2012), a large-scale sculpture by the English artist **Rachel Whiteread** from her series of concrete sculptures depicting the interior space of garden sheds. The sculpture will be installed in the museum's Grace Taylor Broughton Sculpture Garden near the 2013 David Chipperfield-designed expansion in the spring.

The **Orange County Museum of Art** has announced the participating artists for the **2017 California-Pacific Triennial**. The upcoming exhibition, titled "Building as Ever," was curated by OCMA senior curator Cassandra Coblentz; the exhibition will explore the "temporal precariousness of the built environment" by examining issues of preservation and displacement, as well as the effects of global economics and politics on urbanization. The expanded geographic parameters of the triennial, established in 2013 by former chief curator Dan Cameron, grew from the original California Biennial launched by the museum in 1984. The upcoming event includes artists from who live and work in 11 countries ranging from the West Coast of North and South America to China, South Korea, Japan and Australia.

The **Harvard Art Museums** announced the gift of ten artworks by **Nam June Paik**, in addition to a \$1 million gift from business school alumnus **Ken Hakuta**, the nephew of pioneering video artist.

Chief curator Scott Shields of the **Crocker Art Museum** in Sacramento announced that Bay Area artist **Cyrus Tilton** has won the **2016 John S. Knudson Prize**, the first year the prize has been awarded. Established in 2012 by a gift from the estate of art collector John S. Knudson, the prize recognizes emerging to mid-career California artists who have not yet had a solo show at a major art museum. The prize includes a sum of \$25,000, and will also entail a solo exhibition at the Crocker, slated for fall 2018. Tilton, a sculptor, is known for his deconstructed, vaguely surrealistic works that feature inventive use of materials and frequent references to nature. His 2011 show at Vessel Gallery in Oakland, "The Cycle," depicted several iterations of the lives of locusts, a potent allegory for our own society's penchant for obsessive consumption. Works included wall panels depicting locust eggs in soil, a swarm of nearly 500 whirring fabric locusts suspended from the ceiling, and a striking roomsize depiction of a pair of mating locusts made of steel wire and waxed muslin. Titled *Lovers*, the piece was on display again this fall as part of a crowd-sourcing campaign by the gallery, to help fund the work's potential purchase by a suitable institution and to support the artist, who is currently battling stage four esophageal cancer. The work found its home: in addition to the Knudson Prize, in December, the Crocker Art Museum also announced that they had accepted *Lovers* into their permanent collection.



"LOVERS," 2011, **Cyrus Tilton**
STEEL WIRE, MUSLIN AND WAX, 12' x 6½' x 6½'
PHOTO: COURTESY VESSEL GALLERY