



THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

*****MOCA MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**MOCA'S MAURICE MARCIANO DIRECTOR PHILIPPE VERGNE
ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF PAUL BESSIRE AS CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**



LOS ANGELES – The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (MOCA), announces a development staff addition with the appointment of Paul Bessire as Chief Development Officer. In this capacity, Bessire will oversee all fundraising efforts for the museum with special attention made towards the continued growth of MOCA's endowment.

"I am extremely pleased that Paul will be joining MOCA's team," says Vergne. "I, and the MOCA Trustees who were on the search committee, appreciate his breadth of experience, his knowledge of art, his vision of museums as civic spaces, and his ability to engage with individuals and situations that I believe fosters fresh approaches and new ideas."

With more than 25 years of development experience in museums, Paul Bessire has led fundraising programs at three major institutions: the Brooklyn Museum, ICA Boston, and MFA Boston. In August 2016 Bessire launched a development consulting practice and has provided strategic counsel to non-profit cultural groups including Fondation Casa Wabi, Harvard University Art Museums, Performa, Public Art Fund, and Swiss Institute. Throughout his career Bessire has directed capital campaigns and provided the groundwork for institutional transformation by raising an overall total of \$100 million in gifts. Bessire is a Brooklyn native with a keen interest and knowledge of contemporary art and cultural philanthropy. He is a graduate of Kenyon College (BA, History) and trained as a chef in Paris before beginning his work in museums.

Bessire will begin his new roll at MOCA in January 2018.

MOCA ANNOUNCES DEVELOPMENT STAFF ADDITION
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Image credit: Paul Bessire, photo by Jay Wen of Jay Wen Photo.

THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES (MOCA)

About MOCA: Founded in 1979, MOCA's vision is to be the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short period of time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth with three Los Angeles locations of architectural renown; a world-class permanent collection of more than 7,000 objects, international in scope and among the finest in the world; hallmark education programs that are widely emulated; award-winning publications that present original scholarship; groundbreaking monographic, touring, and thematic exhibitions of international repute that survey the art of our time; and cutting-edge engagement with modes of new media production. MOCA is a not-for-profit institution that relies on a variety of funding sources for its activities.

Hours: MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles) is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11am to 6pm; Thursday from 11am to 8pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm; and closed on Tuesday. The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA (located at 152 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012) has the same hours as MOCA Grand Avenue during exhibitions. Please call ahead or go to moca.org for the exhibition schedule for The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA. MOCA Pacific Design Center (located at 8687 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood, CA 90069) is open Tuesday through Friday from 11am to 5pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 6pm; and closed on Monday. The MOCA Store at MOCA Grand Avenue (located at 250 South Grand Avenue) is open Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 10:30am to 5:30pm; Thursday from 10:30am to 8:30pm; and Saturday and Sunday from 10:30am to 6:30pm.

Museum Admission: General admission is free for all MOCA members. General admission is also free for everyone at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm, courtesy of Wells Fargo. General admission is always free at MOCA Pacific Design Center. General admission at MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is \$15 for adults; \$8 for students with I.D.; \$10 for seniors (65+); and free for children under 12 and jurors with I.D.

More Information: For 24-hour information on current exhibitions, education programs, and special events, call 213/626-6222 or access MOCA online at moca.org.

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