



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 29, 2018

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**North Carolina Museum of Art Partners with Arts Access, Inc., to make
You Are Here: Light, Color, and Sound Experiences More Accessible
to Visitors with Disabilities**

*Initiatives include audio description tour, large-print wall labels,
noise-canceling headphones, and sensitivity labeling*

Raleigh, N.C.—The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) has partnered with [Arts Access, Inc.](#), to make the exhibition *You Are Here: Light, Color, and Sound Experiences*, on view through July 22, more accessible to visitors with disabilities. The Museum worked with Arts Access, Inc.—a nonprofit formed in 1984 to enable North Carolinians with disabilities to have full access to arts programs and facilities and to encourage their participation in arts and culture throughout the state—to develop an audio description tour of select works in the exhibition, large-print transcripts of the audio description tour, sensitivity labeling, and large-print wall labels, and to provide access to noise-canceling headphones.

"The accessibility offerings for *You Are Here* are an important step toward making special exhibitions at the NCMA more accessible to everyone," said Robert Mlodzik, visitor services manager at the Museum. "Coupled with other ongoing accessibility features across our campus, our goal is to ensure all Museum visitors have a welcoming and meaningful experience. We have learned a lot, and have more to learn, as we work with Arts Access, Inc., and other groups whose mission is to make the arts accessible to people with disabilities."



The audio description tour, a mobile tour accessible on smart phones and tablets, features detailed narrated descriptions of 15 of the works in the exhibition, including object placement, size, shape, color, and more. The tour is also available as a printed transcript. It was written and recorded by Art Access-trained audio describers Debbie Hippler and Fred Brack and tested by people with low vision.

"We were happy to partner with the NCMA to consider how all visitors could fully experience the art," said Art Access, Inc., Executive Director Betsy Ludwig.

"The NCMA is going beyond compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and truly reaching out and welcoming visitors with disabilities."

(continued)

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Additional accessibility initiatives for *You Are Here* include noise-canceling headphones for visitors with noise sensitivity; sensitivity labeling in the exhibition gallery guide and wall text panels about pulsing lights, elevated noise levels, and low light levels; and large-print wall labels.

The tour can be found at ncartmuseum.org/mobile on phones and tablets connected to the Museum's open Wi-Fi network. The headphones and transcripts are available by request at the Box Office in East Building. Sensitivity labeling is included in the exhibition's gallery guide, available at the Box Office and ticket scanning desk. If visitors have questions or need assistance before their visit, they can call the Box Office at (919) 715-5923.

You Are Here presents pioneering video, light, and sound installations by [Bill Viola](#), [James Turrell](#), [Janet Cardiff](#), [Olafur Eliasson](#), and [Ragnar Kjartansson](#). Works by [Rafael Lozano-Hemmer](#), [Jim Campbell](#), and [Theo Eshetu](#) employ experimental technology, custom electronics, and digital media. Mixed-media installations by [Anila Quayyum Agha](#), [Soo Sunny Park](#), [Mickalene Thomas](#), and [Heather Gordon](#) use low-tech, nontraditional materials. *You Are Here* also takes visitors outdoors to explore large-scale video projects by Austria-based artist collective [OMAi](#). A stunning permanent collection acquisition by [Yayoi Kusama](#) is part of the exhibition as well.

Learn more about the Museum's other accessibility programs and offerings at ncartmuseum.org/visit.

Image

Visitors with low vision use the *You Are Here: Light, Color, and Sound Experiences* exhibition audio description tour in Soo Sunny Park's *Photo-Kinetic Grid*, 2018.

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About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum opened West Building, home to the permanent collection, in 2010. The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Roy Cooper, governor, and an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Susi Hamilton, secretary.