

PRESS RELEASE



**The MIT List Visual Arts Center presents the
2019 Student Lending Art Program Exhibition and Lottery.**

MIT graduate and undergraduate students are eligible to borrow their favorite artwork, from over 650 works on view, to live with for the upcoming academic year.

For the exhibition, artist Evelyn Rydz has been commissioned to create *A La Casa*, a participatory installation and site of social engagement for the MIT community.

Exhibition on view August 27--September 15, 2019

Cambridge, MA, August 5, 2019— The MIT List Visual Arts Center presents the 2019 Student Lending Art Program Exhibition and Lottery. This annual exhibition is on view August 27 through September 15, and is free and open to the public and the MIT community.

The List Center's Student Lending Art Program provides MIT graduate and undergraduate students with the enviable opportunity to borrow and live with a museum-quality work of original art for the academic year. Works from the Student Lending Art Collection are distributed annually through the exhibition, where students participate in a lottery to choose their favorite work of art. Every year 10-12 new works are added to the collection. A [new online resource](#) displays collection holdings and features profiles of MIT students who've participated

in the program.

With well over 650 works in this year's exhibition, MIT students have the opportunity to borrow favorite works by artists such as Berenice Abbott, Nick Mauss, Laura Owens, Cindy Sherman, Lorna Simpson, Tavares Strachan, and Lawrence Weiner, among many others. Recent acquisitions to the collection include works by [Farah Al Qasimi](#) who is currently featured in a List Projects exhibition, and [Alicja Kwade](#), who is the subject of a major solo exhibition at the List Center in October.

This year the List highlights *Wall Drawing #869B* by Sol LeWitt. LeWitt's wall drawings, begun in the late 60's, consist solely of written instruction and diagrams that the artist produced for others to execute. Although the idea of the work is meant to be preserved, the work itself is ephemeral. MIT students who borrow *Wall Drawing #869B* receive a set of instructions, and much in the way musicians perform a musical score, the students follow the instructions to complete the artwork. Visitors to the exhibition will be able to watch a time-lapse documentation video of MIT students creating this work. Sol LeWitt is also featured in MIT's public art collection, having created [Bars of Color Within Squares for \(MIT\)](#), which is sited at MIT's Department of Physics.

As part of its programming for the exhibition, the List Center commissioned artist [Evelyn Rydz](#) to create [A La Mesa](#), an interactive installation which uses food and storytelling to bring people together to create community. A site of social engagement for visitors, the project is inspired by Rydz's ongoing multi-generational project [Comida Casera](#).

For *A La Mesa*, members of the MIT community are invited to sit at a table and listen to stories culled from previous *Comida Casera* community events. Through a series of drop-in projects and scheduled workshops, participating MIT students and gallery visitors will use layers of colorful shapes to create step-by-step recipe instruction booklets, inspired by the people and food that signify a sense of home. Participants will also be invited to contribute their booklets to a shared library, showcasing their stories and recipes.

About the Student Lending Collection

The collection began with the Catherine N. Stratton Collection of Graphic Arts, the List Student Lending Collection, and the Ronald A. Kurtz Student Loan Collection, established in 1966, 1977, and 1985 respectively.

The List Center actively collects new works each year with leadership support provided by the Alan M. May Fund and the John Taylor Endowment.

In 2018–2019 the List Center received gifts of art from Cynthia and Michael Weisfield, Olga and John Gutttag, Carlos de la Torre, Audrey and James Foster, David C. Schmittlein, and Souren Ouzounian.

Additional funds for acquisitions were provided by the Friends of Boston Art, Karen & Gregory Arenson, Rhea Cohen, Leila Kinney, Joan L. Lewis, Bethany & Robert Millard, Sara Ann &



Robert Sanders, Idee German Schoenheimer, Pepi Weis.

Support for the program is provided by the Office of Graduate Education, Vera G. List, MIT's Campus Activities Complex, MIT List Friends of Boston Art, Stanhope Framers, and the Council for the Arts at MIT.

Media Contact

Mark Linga
mlinga@mit.edu
617.452.3586

listart.mit.edu

###

