YEAR IN REVIEW &
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017
EXHIBITIONS & COLLECTIONS

A Hands drawing themselves, fish morphing into birds, architectural fantasies—these were some of the iconic images on view at one of the most popular exhibitions in MAG history. *M.C. Escher: Reality and Illusion*, which opened in October 2016, attracted some 35,000 people—the most since *O’Keeffe* in 2006—and provided the opportunity for some unusual programming. “Mathematics and M.C. Escher,” a lecture cosponsored with the University of Rochester’s department of mathematics, drew more than 200 people.

B In October 2016, the inaugural exhibition in the Media Arts Watch gallery featured work by pioneering video artists Nam June Paik and Bruce Nauman. The new gallery was a major component of Media Arts Watch, a three-year initiative designed to appeal to new audiences by introducing the art of the moving image into MAG’s collection and programs. Leading the initiative is consulting senior curator of media arts John G. Hanhardt (pictured with director Jonathan Binstock), a renowned expert in the field. Among the first acquisitions were works by Charles Atlas, Gibson + Recoder, Bill Viola and Kalup Linzy, whose *Conversations wit de Churen V: As da Art World Might Turn* is pictured at right.

C In February 2017, MAG showcased Meleko Mokgosi’s *Pax Kaffraria*—a series of panoramic paintings in which the Botswana-born artist explores the history, culture and politics of southern Africa in the postcolonial era. The most complete showing of the project to date, the exhibition was a collaboration between MAG and Rochester Contemporary Art Center, with six “chapters” on view at MAG and a seventh at RoCo. It was also the opportunity for a community dialogue that included talks by the artist and a symposium supported by and co-organized with UR’s Frederick Douglass Institute and Department of Art & Art History.

D *Her Voice Carries | Prelude*: For its second annual mural arts project, MAG commissioned Sarah C. Rutherford to launch her city-wide series of portraits of five empowered women. MAG’s large-scale mural includes portraits of the five and a key to the project that shows its other locations in the community. Pictured above: Visitors to MAG in June 2017 got a chance to see work progress.

MAG expanded its superb permanent collection through such diverse acquisitions as a 16th-century Ethiopian icon (pictured at left) and a painting by graffiti artist DAZE. The Lockhart Gallery continued to showcase MAG’s holdings with exhibitions including *Courtly Pleasures: Indian Miniatures from the Permanent Collection* and *The Power of the Female Gaze*.

E “Flip the Switch:” On June 29, 2017, the fiscal year ended with a bang at the unveiling of Jim Sanborn’s *Argentum*—a new, permanent installation in front of the 1913 building. Photo by Matthew Mann.
As part of its 2020 Strategic Plan, MAG expanded programs targeting area GenXers and Millennials. In May 2017, the museum partnered with Rochester Cocktail Revival to host the kickoff of a city-wide festival celebrating the craft cocktail movement (F). Other MAGsocial events included monthly art DeTOURS™ (G), Hidden Passions, Devour Rochester dinners and such popular late-night events as the Halloween “Museum of the Dead” (H) and Valentine Schmalentine.

In its first full school year as department of academic programs, the former education department worked toward another objective of the Strategic Plan—to strengthen the relationships between MAG and the Rochester City School District (RCSD) and MAG and the University of Rochester. Among the year’s highlights, 155 new students at the Eastman School of Music explored connections between music and visual art at the second annual Freshman Colloquium. And MAG’s first College Night, in January 2017, attracted 263 students from area institutions. This collaboration with the University of Rochester featured free admission, shuttlebuses from UR and RIT, a DJ, art activities and visits to M.C. Escher: Reality and Illusion. Pictured (I): Andrew Cappetta, asst. curator of academic programs, leads a tour.

The MAG-RCSD collaboration continued to expand as 475 elementary students at schools #23, #29 and #45 enjoyed weekly visits to the museum over 10 weeks. Pictured (J): students from School 23 enjoy an art activity with Creative Workshop instructor Rose Byrne; photo by Thomas Flint.

The Gallery Council continued its long tradition of volunteering and fund-raising for MAG. Among the year’s highlights, the Council was presenting sponsor of M.C. Escher: Reality and Illusion and lead sponsor of MAG’s ongoing series of Family Fun Days, which attracted more than 4,000 visitors. Pictured (K) are dancers from Bharata School of Indian Dance & Music at Asian Family Day in May 2017. Again this year, the Council’s biggest fund-raiser was its Art and Treasures sale, followed by the Fine Craft Show (L), which attracts award-winning artists from across the country. In addition, Council volunteers began offering a superior shopping experience for Gallery Store visitors by assisting with all aspects of sales, merchandising and customer service.

An Artists’ Affair: This sold-out event in April 2017 was the occasion for food, fun, music and art. Spearheaded by MAG’s Board of Managers with staff support, the gala evening benefited MAG as it showcased area artists Nita Brown, John Greene, Nancy Jurs, Jeff Kell, Olivia Kim, Elizabeth Lyons, St. Monci and Peter Pincus. Pictured: Committee member Laura Swett explains how to bid; dinner in the ballroom. Photos by Ria Tafani.
In November 2016, director Jonathan Binstock announced the largest gift in MAG history—a $3.5 million commitment from the Feinbloom family for the expansion, renovation and perpetual support of the museum’s largest exhibition space. The project was also supported by a $100,000 New York State grant awarded by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo’s Regional Economic Development Council initiative. Work began in May 2017; the newly renamed, state-of-the-art Docent Gallery would reopen in October 2017. Pictured left: Joan Feinbloom with director Jonathan Binstock. Photo by Deron Berkhof.

In February 2017, the bimonthly magazine ARTiculate (right) was back in print, thanks to underwriting from long-time friend Helen Berkeley.

Among the year’s major grants were $119,208 for textile storage from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and funding from the New York State Council on the Arts and Davenport-Hatch Foundation for new lighting in the Fountain Court (pictured left) and Renaissance Gallery.

THE YEAR BY THE NUMBERS

265,087 VISITORS CAME TO MAG

15,311 SCHOOLCHILDREN & ADULTS ENJOYED DOCENT-LED TOURS

4,759 INDIVIDUAL & CORPORATE MEMBERS SUPPORTED MAG

1,143 INDIVIDUALS VOLUNTEERED 34,628 HOURS
MEMORIAL ART GALLERY of the University of Rochester
FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

REVENUES $7,329,531

- EARNED INCOME 33%*
- ENDOWMENT 34%
- UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER 9%
- MEMBERSHIP & GIFTS 22%
- GOVERNMENT 2%

EXPENSES $7,329,314

- ACADEMICS 7.5%
- FACILITIES 22%
- ADMINISTRATION 17%
- CURATORIAL 5%
- TECHNOLOGY 4%
- REVENUE GENERATING DEPARTMENTS 38.5%
  (Advancement, Marketing & Engagement, Store, Events, Creative Workshop)
- EXHIBITIONS 6%
- MEMBERSHIP & GIFTS 22%

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