

# ARTTABLE

## ARTTABLE, IN ITS 40TH YEAR ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF 2020 NEW YORK BENEFIT, TAKING PLACE FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2020

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**January, 7, 2020 New York, NY**— ArtTable, the foremost professional organization dedicated to the advancement of professional women in the visual arts, will honor Susan Unterberg, photographer and founder of Anonymous Was a Woman, with the Distinguished Service to the Visual Arts Award at their Annual Benefit and Award Ceremony on Friday, April 24, 2020 in New York City. Susan Unterberg founded Anonymous Was A Woman, a program that awards unrestricted grants to women artists who are over 40 years of age, in part to counter sexism in the art world. Nominators and those associated with the program are unnamed, although, in 2018 Unterberg decided to reveal herself, stating to Artnet, that “it seemed to be a great time for women to speak up, and I felt I could be the most forceful using my own voice.”

The name of the award and the program refers to the line in Virginia Wolf’s *A Room of One’s Own*. Unterberg founded the Anonymous Was a Woman grant in 1996 as a direct response to the National Endowment for the Arts’ decision to stop funding individual artists. Since its inception it has awarded over 6 Million dollars in funding to 240 women identifying artists at artists who are at a pivotal point in their work and career.

“It’s incredible to be a part of an organization with such a strong history. ArtTable began advocating for equity in the visual arts field at a time when such discussions weren’t considered in our national conscious. Likewise for this year’s benefit it is a privilege to be able to recognize Susan Unterberg whose Anonymous Was A Woman grant has provided tremendous opportunities for women identifying artists,” said ArtTable’s Executive Director Jessica L. Porter, “I am incredibly proud that today we have such a diverse membership of professional women working to advance our mission of advocating for women in the arts.”

As per a previous announcement, ArtTable is also recognizing four outstanding professionals in the visual arts, Wassan Al-Khudhairi, chief curator at the contemporary art, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis; Erin Christovale, associate curator, Hammer Museum; Lauren Haynes, curator, Contemporary Art at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art; Jami Powell, associate curator of Native American Art, Hood Museum-Dartmouth; with 2020 New Leadership Awards (NLA).

Founded in 1980, ArtTable is celebrating 40 years of advancing leadership of women in the visual arts in 2020. Beginning as a small, informal group of professional women in the arts, ArtTable has grown to a national network of over 1,200 women with chapters across the country and members worldwide fostering a stronger future for all women in the arts.

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## 2020 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE VISUAL ARTS HONOREE



Susan Unterberg is a New York-based photographer and philanthropist, whose poetic photographic and video work explores the psychological complexities of intimate relationships, especially familial ones, as well as nature and broader political themes. She has been represented by the Lawrence Miller Gallery, and later Yancey Richardson Gallery, and her work has been exhibited broadly in the U.S. and abroad at such institutions as the New Museum, the International Center of Photography, and the Contemporary Art Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. Unterberg is represented in major public collections

including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, the Jewish Museum, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. She has been awarded fellowships and residencies at Yaddo, the MacDowell Colony, Djerassi Artists Program, the American Academy in Rome, and Bogliasco. In 2019 she was awarded NYU's Distinguished Alumni Award, as well as being honored at the Skowhegan Awards Dinner.

In 2018, Unterberg stepped forward as the founder and sole funder of the Anonymous Was A Woman Award, which awards 10 unrestricted \$25,000 grants to women-identifying artists over the age of 40 each year.

### **ARTTABLE'S ANNUAL BENEFIT & AWARD CEREMONY**

The April event is a signature annual benefit and award ceremony celebrating the contributions and accomplishments of exemplary professional women in the visual arts. The list of past benefit honorees features a range of pioneering women in the arts, including Agnes Gund, Patricia E. Harris, Emily K. Rafferty, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Dianne Pilgrim, Joan Mondale, Stephanie French, Lucy Lippard, Marcia Tucker, Paula Cooper, Iris Cantor, Linda Nochlin, Elizabeth C. Baker, Elizabeth A. Sackler, Vishakha N. Desai, Toby Devan Lewis, Yoko Ono, Lila Harnett, Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, Marguerite Steed Hoffman, Melva Bucksbaum and Raymond Leary, Marielise Hessel, Lowery Stokes Sims, Marian Goodman, and Estrellita B. Brodsky.

### **ABOUT THE EVENT**

Friday, April 24, 2020, 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Capitale, 130 Bowery, New York, NY 10013

For additional information and tickets, please visit ArtTable's website:

<http://arttable.org/40th-anniversary/>