

# GUGGENHEIM

## NEWS RELEASE

### **2018 Guggenheim International Gala Honors the Edmond de Rothschild Foundation and Philanthropists Dimitris Daskalopoulos and Alice Walton**

**Benefit Events on November 14 and 15 Celebrated Visionary Philanthropy with Special Performances in the Rotunda that Included Jorja Smith and the Oldest Song in the World Arranged by Nico Muhly**

**The 2018 Guggenheim International Gala is made possible by Dior**

(NEW YORK, NY—November 16, 2018)—The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum celebrated the Edmond de Rothschild Foundation and philanthropists Dimitris Daskalopoulos and Alice Walton on November 15 at the 2018 Guggenheim International Gala Benefit Dinner in the museum’s landmark Frank Lloyd Wright–designed building. The night before, on November 14, singer-songwriter Jorja Smith performed in the rotunda at the Pre-Party, with guests also enjoying sounds by AMRIT throughout the evening. The dinner on November 15 featured a menu by Gunnar Gíslason, Executive Head Chef of Agern, as well as a special performance of the oldest song in the world, the “*Hurrian Hymn*,” arranged by Nico Muhly and commissioned by Works & Process at the Guggenheim. The 2018 Guggenheim International Gala is made possible by Dior.

Guests at the November 15 benefit dinner included Richard Armstrong, Pietro Beccari, Maria Grazia Chiuri, Alexandra Daskalopoulos who accepted the honor on behalf of her father Dimitris Daskalopoulos, Derrick Adams, Mindy Besaw, Anne Collier, Amy Fine Collins, Elina Kountouri, Frederic Fekkai, Nan Goldin, Jamie King, Karlie Kloss, Gwyneth Paltrow, Rachele Regini, Taryn Simon, Jorja Smith, Nancy Spector, Hank Willis Thomas, and Ioanna Vryzaki. The Gala cochairs are Christina and Robert Baker, Pietro Beccari, Maria Grazia Chiuri, Valerie and Charles Diker, Wendy Fisher and Dennis Goodman, Kenneth Griffin, Christine and Richard Mack, Phyllis and William Mack, and Denise and Andrew Saul.

Over \$2 million was raised in support of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, advancing a range of internationally acclaimed exhibitions and educational programs, while providing stewardship for the Guggenheim's modern and contemporary art collection and its building.

On November 14, nearly 600 guests attended the 2018 Guggenheim International Gala Pre-Party. The evening featured a special performance by Jorja Smith and sounds by AMRIT. Guests included Maria Grazia Chiuri, Gideon Adlon, Sophie Auster, Anna Baryshnikov, Jon Batiste, Sam Beckerman, Cali Beckerman, Hannah Bronfman, Juana Burga, Jessica Clements, Rebecca Dayan, Brendan Fallis, Daniella Garcia, Amalie Gassmann, Kat Graham, GoldLink, Gala Gonzalez, Charlotte Groeneveld, Winnie Harlow, Mckenna Hellam, Sofia Hublitz, Anne Huntingon, Eleanor Lambert, Makenzie Leigh, Zosia Mamet, Danny Mapes, Selah Marley, Chantal Monaghan, Janet Montgomery, Harley Viera Newton, Olivia Palermo, TK Quann, Cipriana Quann, Rachele Regini, Camille Rowe, Charlotte Sarkozy, Ryan Jamaal Swain, Duckie Thot, Geraldine Viswanathan, Brittany Xavier, Gemma Ward, Nicole Warne, and Tiffany Zabudowicz.

## **2018 GUGGENHEIM INTERNATIONAL GALA HONOREES**

### **About the Edmond de Rothschild Foundation**

The Edmond de Rothschild Foundations are an international philanthropic network rooted in a two-hundred-year-old family tradition. Ariane and Benjamin de Rothschild, the seventh generation, continue to preside over the dedication and outreach of this unique organization in Europe, Israel, Africa, and the United States. The foundations find innovative ways to engage partners, bring unforeseen collaborations, and realize true change in the arts, entrepreneurship, and health. The foundations build bridges between today and tomorrow, scale impact, promote diversity, and harness an entrepreneurial zeal to giving. This proactive style of philanthropy is the result of a radical transformation of the Rothschild philanthropic legacy, spearheaded by Firoz Ladak, CEO, for over ten years. Together with their partners, the Edmond de Rothschild Foundations believe they can cocreate the future.

The Edmond de Rothschild Foundations are a generous supporter of Guggenheim Social Practice, an unprecedented initiative launched in 2014 with the Guggenheim that explores the innovative and unexpected ways artists can engage communities in creative production. By catalyzing the role of a major museum in this field, the initiative fosters new forms of public engagement and provides an opportunity to study the impact of social practice art on participating communities, artists, and the institution. Past projects include Lenka Clayton and Jon Rubin's . . . *circle through New York*, a six-month project designed to generate new dynamics and connections by bringing together six partners typically held apart by socioeconomics, geography, or circumstance.

### **About Dimitris Daskalopoulos**

Dimitris Daskalopoulos is an entrepreneur, the founder and Chairman of DAMMA Holdings SA, a financial services and investment company. He served as the Chairman of the Board of the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV) for 8 consecutive years (2006-2014). He is today SEV's Honorary President. From 2013 to 2015 he served as BUSINESS EUROPE's Vice President and from 1983 to 2007 he was the principal owner, Chairman and CEO of Delta Holdings/Vivartia SA, Greece's largest

food conglomerate. He is the founder and Chairman of diaNEOsis (2015), a research think tank in Greece, which commissions studies and makes policy proposals on the major social and economic issues in Greece. Dimitris Daskalopoulos is a collector of contemporary art, D.Daskalopoulos Collection (1994).

A Vice President of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Collections Council of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, Daskalopoulos has been an active supporter of the acquisitions program through its International Director's Council and gifts to a curators' discretionary fund for acquisitions. In addition, he has made gifts of artwork to the Guggenheim, including Matthew Barney's sculpture *Chrysler Imperial* (2002), jointly acquired with the Director's Council in 2003 as a partial and promised gift to the museum, and Doris Salcedo's *A Flor de Piel* (2011–12). In 2017 Daskalopoulos supported the creation of an endowed curatorial position for contemporary art and the Guggenheim named curator Katherine Brinson, who joined the museum in 2005, as the first Daskalopoulos Curator, Contemporary Art.

He is also an active member of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, the Tate International Council and the Leadership Council of the New Museum and a founding partner of the Whitechapel's Future Fund (2011). He is the founder of NEON (2013), a non-profit organization, which works to bring contemporary culture in Greece closer to everyone. His vision for NEON, a foundation without a space, initiated a new model of engagement between the public and private based on the idea that "Our Space is the City." Thematic exhibitions based on his collection have been presented at the Whitechapel Gallery, London (2010-2011), the Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao (2011) and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh (2012-2013). In 2014 ICI honored Dimitris Daskalopoulos with the 2014 Leo Award. The award acknowledged Daskalopoulos's visionary approach to collecting, through the D.Daskalopoulos Collection, and his work in establishing NEON.

### **About Alice Walton**

Alice Walton is a committed patron of the arts and philanthropist. She led the Walton Family Foundation's founding of Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and serves as Chairwoman of the museum's Board of Directors. She is a board member of the Walton Family Foundation. The establishment of the museum and its impact within the region has prompted numerous accolades for Walton. She is a recipient of the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Art Medal, the John Cotton Dana Medal for Visionary Leadership in Museums, and the Leonore and Walter Annenberg Award for Diplomacy through the Arts for her significant philanthropic contributions. She was recognized by *Time* magazine as one of the most influential people in the world. Walton has remained committed to improving the quality of life in her home state. She was the first chairperson and driving force behind the Northwest Arkansas Council, which played a major role in securing the development of the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport, improving transportation infrastructure throughout the region. She also established Camp War Eagle, which offers Northwest Arkansas children of differing socioeconomic backgrounds an exceptional summer camp experience. Walton began her career in finance and later founded Llama Company, an investment bank. She has served as a member of the board of the Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, and the Trustees' Council of the National

Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Trinity University and an honorary Doctor of Arts and Humane Letters from the University of Arkansas.

In 2017 Walton created Art Bridges, a foundation focused on sharing outstanding works of American art across the country. Her vision for the foundation centers on collaboration with museums and institutions of all sizes and in all regions of the country, where Art Bridges will help create and fund exhibitions, programs, evaluation, and new thinking about sharing works of art. The Guggenheim is among a group of museums that will participate in upcoming Art Bridges projects.

### **About the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation**

Founded in 1937, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation is dedicated to promoting the understanding and appreciation of art, primarily of the modern and contemporary periods, through exhibitions, education programs, research initiatives, and publications. The Guggenheim constellation of museums that began in the 1970s when the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, was joined by the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, has since expanded to include the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao (opened 1997) and the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi (currently in development). The Guggenheim Foundation continues to forge international collaborations that celebrate contemporary art, architecture, and design within and beyond the walls of the museum, including the Guggenheim Social Practice initiative, Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative, and The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Chinese Art Initiative. More information about the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation can be found at [guggenheim.org](http://guggenheim.org).

For publicity images, visit Billy Farrell Agency at [bfa.com](http://bfa.com) and Getty Images at [gettyimages.com](http://gettyimages.com).

[guggenheim.org/social](http://guggenheim.org/social)

#GIG2018

#1544

November 16, 2018

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT

May Yeung

Publicist

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

212 423 3840, [pressoffice@guggenheim.org](mailto:pressoffice@guggenheim.org)

Karen Chan

Public Relations Director

Christian Dior Couture

212 931 2843, [karen.chan@diorus.com](mailto:karen.chan@diorus.com)