

Dear Lithuanian Community,

I am so excited to share with you some more information about our upcoming celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lithuania's independence. We are planning to celebrate during the opening of a new exhibit from Lithuania – *The Future is Certain; It's the Past Which is Unpredictable*, curated by Monika Lipšic from Vilnius and including works by many Lithuanian artists, including Deimantas Narkevičius, Emilija Škarnulytė and Jonas Mekas. The exhibit will be opening on the evening of February 16<sup>th</sup> at the University of Houston Blaffer Art Museum. The Museum has kindly invited the Lithuanian Community to a private pre-opening at the Blaffer from 5:30pm to 6:00pm on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, which will include the opportunity to meet with Monika and visiting artists. The exhibit will then be open to the public from 6:00 to 9:00pm. At 6:30 PM there will be a Curatorial Talk by Monika Lipšic and the artists.

Monika is working on inviting many of the Lithuanian artists to attend the opening, but for that additional funding is needed. A combined \$4000 gift from LACH members would be very meaningful to the Blaffer and would allow them to include more artists. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. As an added incentive, the Blaffer is offering its membership benefits for funds that are directly contributed to the Blaffer and designated towards this exhibit. These benefits are listed here: <http://blafferartmuseum.org/membership-levels/>.

We hope that you can attend and help us celebrate together! We would also be very grateful for any financial support. To do so, you can either contribute directly to LACH, by check (mailed to Rimas Vebeliunas, Treasurer, 1400 Hermann Dr. Unit 2A Houston, TX 77004) or you can contribute to the Blaffer directly online, by following the instructions below. You may want to consider donating directly to Blaffer if your place of employment has a matching gift program for cultural institutions. This way any donation (there may be a minimum such as \$25) will double in value.

#### Exhibit Information:

- Place: Blaffer Art Museum, University of Houston (<http://blafferartmuseum.org/>)
- Date and Time: February 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm - 8:30pm
- Dress Code: Business or Dressy Casual
- Recommended Ages: Adults and Children 12 and up
- Admission: Free, though number of free parking spots is extremely limited. Be prepared to pay \$5, by credit card only.

Mieli lietuviai,

Vasario 16-ą dieną kviečiu visus kartu pažymėti Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės 100 metų jubiliejų. Mums suteikta galimybė jubiliejinį Lietuvos gimtadienį pasitikti Hjustono Universiteto Blaffer Meno Muziejuje. Muziejus mums suteikia galimybę dalyvauti parodos "*Ateitis tai aiški, o štai praeitis - nenuspėjama*" atidaryme. Parodos pavadinime panaudotas senas sovietų posakis. Būtent praeitis, istorija yra šios parodos ašis. Parodoje bus demonstruojami Deimanto Narkevičiaus, Emilijos Škarnulytės, Jono Meko bei kitų kūrėjų darbai. Parodą kuruoja Monika Lipšic iš Vilniaus.

Atidarymo ceremonija vyks penktadienį (vasario 16 d.) Blaffer Meno Muziejuje (Blaffer Art Museum, University of Houston). Galimybė aplankyti parodą ir susitikti su kuratore bei viešniais artistais nuo 5:30 iki 6:00 vakaro suteikta išskirtinai lietuvių bendruomenei. Po to, iki 9:00 vakaro paroda bus atvira visiems norintiems.

Monika labai norėtų, kad kuo daugiau parodos kūrėjų galėtų atvykti į Hjustoną atidarymo proga. Muziejus tokių lėšų skirti negali, tad prašoma mūsų paramos. Suaukoti reiktų apie \$4000. Mūsų šeima prisidės ir mes labai raginame prisijungti ir kitus. Bet kokia suma būtų svarbi ir vertinga. Blaffer muziejus skatina paramą ir rėmėjams siūlo naudotis muziejaus narystės privilegijomis (<http://blafferartmuseum.org/membership-levels/>).

Tikimės, kad gausiai susirinksime ir gerai praleisime laiką mums tokia svarbia proga! Labai tikimės ir finansinės paramos. Aukoti galima tiesiogiai LACH (čekių, adresuotas: Rimas Vebeliunas, Treasurer, 1400 Hermann Dr. Unit 2A Houston, TX 77004) arba tiesiogiai Blaffer Muziejui (paramos instrukcijos prisegamos).

Renginio informacija:

- Vieta: Blaffer Art Museum, University of Houston (<http://blafferartmuseum.org/>)
- Pradžia: 5:30PM, 2018 vasario 16d, iki 9:00PM
- Aprangos kodas: verslo arba puošnus kasdieninis
- Rekomenduojama vaikams nuo 12 metų ir suaugusiems
- Įėjimas laisvas, bet gali tekti sumokėti už automobilio parkavimą (\$5, kreditine kortele), nes nemokamų parkavimo vietų prie muziejaus labai nedaug.

## Instructions for Donating Online Directly to Blaffer:

It's a little bit involved, but there's a straightforward way to earmark donations to Monika's show through the Blaffer Art Museum's online giving portal.

1. Go to <https://giving.uh.edu/gift/>
2. Locate the College of the Arts (where it says Select a School...)
3. Locate Blaffer Art Museum (where it says Select a Department)
4. Locate Blaffer Art Museum Exhibitions HC14115RN and designate an amount and then hit "next."
5. Fill in the memo box with a short message to the effect that you'd like the funds to support "*The Future is Certain; It's the Past Which is Unpredictable.*" That way, the funds will come directly to the Blaffer and be earmarked for this exhibit. If you would like to receive Blaffer membership benefits appropriate to your level of giving, please note that here too.

Gratefully/Dekingai,

Danguolė Altman and the LACH Board