

## SITE SANTA FE PRESENTS *HIS MARK*

### BRUCE NAUMAN'S FIRST SOLO EXHIBITION IN NEW MEXICO FEATURING A NEW SELF PORTRAIT

Opening Celebration: Friday, June 2, 2023, 5:00 - 9:00 PM

(Santa Fe, NM, May 4, 2023) – SITE SANTA FE presents internationally renowned artist Bruce Nauman's first solo exhibition in New Mexico, *His Mark*, which will run from June 2 through September 11, 2023, and features a collection of new and recent video installations, including never-before-shown self-portrait work and new 3D video.

Since the 1960s, Bruce Nauman's work has questioned the very nature of what constitutes art and being an artist. He is known for making his body—his hands in particular—the object of his work and a tool for exploring the relationship between language and meaning. Exploring intersections between personal and historical moments of profound loss, the exhibition centers on Nauman's video installation, *His Mark* (2021), consisting of eight 114 x 203 inch 3D projections of Nauman's hands forming an X on a table. Accompanying *His Mark* are two related works, the single-channel video projection *Practice* (2022) and the single channel 3D video projection *Spider* (2021).

"The works in this exhibition have nuanced autobiographical and historical origins," says SITE SANTA FE curator Brandee Caoba. "*His Mark* explores the mournful implications of loss and its complicated rippling impacts through repetition and gesture."

A new work, *Self Portrait at 80* (2022), is shown alongside this series. Nauman often returns to earlier works or materials, recontextualizing or reconfiguring them, and in the process, arrives at new meanings. *Self Portrait at 80*, shown publicly for the first time in this exhibition, repurposes the 2018 video *Walking a Line*. For this new iteration, Nauman reverses all the parameters: the color is removed; the motion is reversed, but the soundtrack is not; and the projected 3D image is flipped back-to-front and front-to-back. The result is a complete inversion of the spatial relationships between Nauman and the world around him.

*His Mark* is curated by Brandee Caoba and organized by Max Holmes with Bruce Nauman Studio.

*His Mark* opens Friday, June 2, 2023, from 5:00 - 9:00 pm.

A full schedule of public programs will take place throughout the run of the exhibition. Event details will be updated at [sitesantafe.org](https://sitesantafe.org).

## Related Programming

### Vicente Todolí in conversation with Taylor Walsh on Bruce Nauman

Saturday, June 3, 2:00 pm, SITE Santa Fe Auditorium

Tickets available at [sitesantafe.org](http://sitesantafe.org)

Editorial director of Greene Naftali Gallery, New York, Taylor Walsh leads Vicente Todolí, Artistic Director of Pirelli HangarBicocca, in a discussion of Bruce Nauman's work.

Vicente Todolí has been the Artistic Director of Pirelli HangarBicocca since 2012. Over the course of his career, Todolí has been the Artistic Director of Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno, Director of the Serralves Museum in Porto, Director of the Tate Modern in London, part of the 1997 Venice Biennale curatorial team (Directed by Germano Celant), and an independent curator of numerous major exhibitions around the world.

Taylor Walsh holds a PhD in the history of art from Harvard University and is editorial director at Greene Naftali Gallery, New York. She was a co-organizer of the retrospective *Bruce Nauman: Disappearing Acts* at Schaulager, Basel, and the Museum of Modern Art, New York (2018-19) and is the editor of *October Files: Bruce Nauman* (MIT Press, 2018).

### Meredith Monk with Katie Geissinger and Allison Sniffin in Concert

Saturday, August 26, 2023, 7:30 pm, Lensic Performing Arts Center

Tickets available at [lensic.org](http://lensic.org)

Recognized as one of our time's most unique and influential artists, composer/performer Meredith Monk offers a rare and intimate concert at the Lensic in conjunction with Bruce Nauman's *His Mark* exhibition at SITE Santa Fe. The concert, with renowned members of her Vocal Ensemble, Katie Geissinger and Allison Sniffin, reflects Monk's six decades of innovation and awe-inspiring vocal mastery, mining the depths of the myriad possibilities of the human voice.

### INNOVATIVE THINKER SPEAKER SERIES:

#### Bruce Nauman and Meredith Monk in conversation with Siri Engberg

Sunday, August 27, 4 pm, SITE Santa Fe Auditorium

Tickets available at [sitesantafe.org](http://sitesantafe.org)

Legendary artist-friends Bruce Nauman and Meredith Monk will take the stage with Siri Engberg for a rare public conversation delving into their practices' multidisciplinary nature.

SITE Santa Fe's Innovative Thinker Series brings leading cultural figures to Santa Fe, NM, to illuminate cross-disciplinary contemporary issues.

Innovative Thinker was established as an annual event to honor SITE Santa Fe's former Director of Education, Juliet Myers. SITE Santa Fe is grateful to the Gale Family Foundation for their significant support of the Innovative Thinker Speaker Series.

### About Bruce Nauman

Born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1941, Bruce Nauman received his BS from the University of Wisconsin, Madison (1964), and his MFA from the University of California, Davis (1966). Nauman is widely regarded one of the most important living American artists and as a catalyst for the shift in international artistic practice toward conceptual and performative uses of language and the body.

Since his first solo gallery show in 1966, Nauman has been the subject of many notable museum exhibitions, including a survey organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art (1972-73) and a survey at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, in collaboration with the Kunsthalle Basel and the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (1986-87). A major retrospective, co-organized by The Walker Art Center and the Hirshhorn Museum, opened at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, and traveled to the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; and Kunsthaus Zurich (1993-95).

Other important solo exhibitions include *Raw Materials*, commissioned for Tate Modern's Turbine Hall (2004); *A Rose Has No Teeth: Bruce Nauman in the 1960s* at the Berkeley Art Museum, Castello di Rivoli, and Menil Collection (2007-08); and *Bruce Nauman* at the Fondation Cartier (2015).

*Bruce Nauman: Disappearing Acts*, a comprehensive retrospective, debuted at Schaulager, Basel (2018) and traveled to The Museum of Modern Art, New York, and MoMA P.S.1 (2018-19). In 2020, Tate presented a survey that traveled to the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2021); M Woods, Beijing (2022); and Pirelli HangarBicocca, Milan (2022-23).

In May 2021, Palazzo Grassi – Punta della Dogana opened *Bruce Nauman: Contrapposto Studies*, which was on view until November 2022. Nauman received the Wolf Foundation Prize in Arts in 1993, the Wexner Prize in 1994, the Golden Lion at the 48th Venice Biennale in 1999, and the Praemium Imperiale in 2004 in Japan. Nauman represented the United States at the 2009 Venice Biennale; the pavilion was awarded the Golden Lion for Best National Participation. Nauman was the 2014 laureate of the Austrian Frederick Kiesler Prize. Since his first exhibition at Sperone Westwater in 1976, Nauman has exhibited regularly at the gallery (1982, 1984, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1996, 2002, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2020 and 2022).

## Thank you

Support for *His Mark* and accompanying programming is generously provided by the SITE SANTA FE Board of Directors, the SITE SANTA FE Annual Exhibition Fund, Jackie and Irving Blum, Bobbie Foshay, Maria and Ed Gale, Gale Family Foundation, Diane and Werner Grob, Agnes Gund, Jeanne and Mickey Klein, Helen Kornblum, Nina Zingale and Jerry Meyer, Barbara and Michael Ogg, Christophe A Olson Roebling Endowment & Jose Granados, Angela Westwater, and Rosina Yue.

Special thanks to Juliet Myers and Bruce Nauman Studio, Angela Westwater, and Sperone Westwater.

Additional funding is provided by the City of Santa Fe Arts and Culture Department and the 1% Lodgers' Tax.

## About SITE SANTA FE

Guided by artists, rooted in New Mexico, SITE SANTA FE celebrates contemporary creative expression. SITE SANTA FE aspires to be a community resource for creativity and learning and an internationally recognized destination for art and artists.

Founded in 1995 to establish the first international contemporary art biennial in the United States, SITE SANTA FE is a non-collecting art institution committed to supporting new developments in contemporary art, encouraging artistic exploration, and expanding traditional museum experiences. Since its launch, SITE SANTA FE has presented eleven international biennials, more than one-hundred contemporary art exhibitions, and works by hundreds of emerging and established artists from around the world and New Mexico. SITE SANTA FE also presents a wide range of public and educational programs, including conversations with artists and curators, performances, film screenings, concerts, hands-on workshops, and collaborations with dozens of local schools and community organizations.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON SITE SANTA FE CAN BE FOUND AT [SITESANTAFE.ORG](http://SITESANTAFE.ORG)

FOLLOW SITE SANTA FE ON [FACEBOOK](#), [TWITTER](#), AND [INSTAGRAM](#)

Media Contact: Carolina Franco  
Manager of External Affairs, SITE SANTA FE  
T: +1 (505) 989-1199 x 12 | E: [franco@sitesantafe.org](mailto:franco@sitesantafe.org)

