

October 3, 2018

Jessica Hirschey
Deputy Chief Membership Officer
Metropolitan Museum of Art
1000 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10028

Dear Ms. Hirschey:

Thank you for your letter of September 17th on behalf of Daniel Brodsky. But I'm afraid both he and you missed my point. First, I was not writing as a museum "member" but as a professional scholar and critic.

More important, what I argued was that the Met's proper mission is to focus on work that has stood the test of time. In addition, I argued that the contemporary "art and artists" increasingly featured at the Met depart so radically from the past as to cast doubt on their being considered as such at all. That is a question not merely about quality but about the very category they are assigned to.

For further clarification of my view, see *Who Says That's Art? A Commonsense View of the Visual Arts*, a copy of which is available in the Met's Watson Library. Especially relevant are the Introduction (which you can also read on my website) and Chapter 9: Today's Dysfunctional Artworld—Who Is to Blame?.

Sincerely,

Michelle Marder Kamhi

cc: Daniel Brodsky