

Institute of  
Contemporary  
Art, Miami



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ICA Miami and the Miami Design District  
Unveil First US Public Project by Renowned Architect  
Yona Friedman**

***Space-Chain Phantasy-Miami 2019* opens to the public on March 2, 2019 in the  
Miami Design District Paradise Plaza**



Prototype sculpture of *Space-chain Phantasy-Miami 2019* by architect Yona Friedman for the Miami Design District. Courtesy the artist.

**February 14, 2019 – (Miami, FL)** – The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, in collaboration with the Miami Design District, will present a newly-commissioned project by **Yona Friedman**, a Hungarian-born French architect, urban planner, and designer. Drawing from a lifetime of developing architectural concepts that seek to empower users and generate democratic cities, Friedman will develop a new prototype, ***Space-Chain Phantasy-Miami 2019***, inspired by Miami and reflecting his perspective that architecture should be flexible, mobile, and adjust to the needs of its inhabitants. On view in the **Miami Design District Paradise Plaza beginning March 2, 2019**, "Yona Friedman: Space-Chain Phantasy-Miami 2019" marks the architect's first public project in the United States.

"Friedman is recognized as one the most important architectural thinkers of the postwar period," states Gean Moreno, Curator of Programs at ICA Miami and along with Alexandra Cunningham Cameron is a co-curator of Friedman's project. "He has developed a number of innovative theories and fostered a

highly conceptual practice that ventures into sociology, urban planning, filmmaking, mathematics, economics, and information science. In his thinking Friedman emphasizes the freedom and autonomy of the user or inhabitant, reacts to technological advancements, and calls for a responsible relationship with the environment.”

“We are honored to have Yona’s work on display in the Miami Design District and thrilled that he chose us for the location of his first project in the U.S,” said Craig Robins, CEO of Dacra Development and developer of the Miami Design District. “The public sculpture initiative with ICA Miami has brought some extraordinary talent to Paradise Plaza and Yona’s architectural design is a welcomed addition to the neighborhood.”

Over the last two decades, Yona Friedman (b. 1923, Budapest) has found a receptive audience in the art world, and he has developed projects for international exhibitions and institutions, including documenta, Kassel, Germany; Serpentine Gallery, London; and the Venice Biennale, among many others. His work can be found in the collections of the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Centre national des arts plastiques, Paris; Centre national édition art image, Chatou, France; FRAC Centre, Fonds régional d’art contemporain, Orléans, France; Institut d’art contemporain, Lyon; and Nouveau Musée National de Monaco. He currently resides in Paris.

This public sculpture continues a collaborative public sculpture initiative between ICA Miami and the Miami Design District, and is curated by Alexandra Cunningham Cameron and Gean Moreno, Curator of Programs at ICA Miami. Launched in 2017, the inaugural program included two outdoor concrete block structures by conceptual artist Sol LeWitt, *Tower (Frankfurt)*, (1990) and *Tower (Lodz)*, (1993), as well as a commissioned 33-foot site-specific sculpture by ICA Miami from renowned German Pop artist Thomas Bayrle entitled *Wire Madonna* (2016).

"Yona Friedman: Space-Chain Phantasy-Miami 2019" will be accompanied by a 100-page publication with newly-commissioned scholarly essays and graphic projects, including Teddy Cruz, Fonna Forman, and Jimenez Lai, among others.

## **About the Public Sculpture Initiative**

ICA Miami’s public sculpture initiative was launched in 2017, designed to extend ICA Miami’s dynamic exhibitions program into the community and engage the public with thought-provoking contemporary art. Featuring significant works by leading post-war and contemporary artists, including major works from the museum’s collection, presentations rotate annually in the Miami Design District.

## **About the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami**

The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) is dedicated to promoting continuous experimentation in contemporary art, advancing new scholarship, and fostering the exchange of art and ideas throughout the Miami region and internationally. Through an energetic calendar of exhibitions and programs, and its collection, the ICA Miami provides an important international platform for the work of local, emerging, and under-recognized artists, and advances the public appreciation and understanding of the most innovative art of our time.

Launched in 2014 and having recently opened in its new permanent home in the Miami Design District, ICA Miami's central location positions it as a cultural anchor within the community and enhances its role in developing cultural literacy throughout the Miami region. The museum is deeply committed to providing open, public access to artistic excellence by offering year-round free admission.

[www.icamiami.org](http://www.icamiami.org)

## About Miami Design District

The Miami Design District is a one-of-a-kind neighborhood that combines luxury shopping, galleries, museums, design stores, restaurants, and major art and design installations all within an architecturally significant context. The Miami Design District is owned and operated by Miami Design District Associates, a partnership between Dacra, founded and owned by visionary entrepreneur Craig Robins; and L Catterton Real Estate, a global real estate development and investment fund specializing in creating luxury shopping destinations. Since 2017, the Miami Design District has expanded dramatically, with new restaurants and luxury boutiques opening in the distinctive, walkable neighborhood that welcomes and encourages innovation. As Miami becomes increasingly known for its own rich culture, the growth of the Miami Design District further reflects how the city is deserving of its place on the global stage.

## Location, Hours, and Admission

Miami Design District Paradise Plaza

151 NE 41st St, Miami, FL 33137

[www.miamidesigndistrict.net](http://www.miamidesigndistrict.net)

Mon–Sat, 11am–8pm

Sun, 12–6pm

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami

61 NE 41st St, Miami, FL 33137

[www.icamiami.org](http://www.icamiami.org)

Free Admission

Tues–Sun, 11am–7pm

## Media Contacts

### Regional Media

Tommy Ralph Pace

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami

[tpace@icamiami.org](mailto:tpace@icamiami.org)

305.901.5272 ext. 102

### National Media

Barbara Escobar / Sarah Palay / Jill Mediatore

Resnicow and Associates

[bescobar](mailto:bescobar) / [spalay](mailto:spalay) / [jmediatore@resnicow.com](mailto:jmediatore@resnicow.com)

212.671.5174 / 5163 / 5164

Aaron Gordon

Schwartz Media Strategies

[aaron@schwartz-media.com](mailto:aaron@schwartz-media.com)

305.858.3935

Kayla Parker

PR Consulting

[KParker@prconsulting.net](mailto:KParker@prconsulting.net)

212.228.8181