

MEDIA/PUBLISHING

New Kering-backed book shines spotlight on history of women painters

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Loie Hollowell, Hilary Pecis, Jordan Casteel and Genesis Tramaine holding "Great Women Painters." Image credit: (c) Jeremy Laws on Photography (PRNewsfoto/Phaidon)

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (MCA) partnered with Gucci owner Kering, publisher Phaidon and contemporary art marketplace Artspace for a new book that celebrates women painters.

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The book, *Great Women Painters*, highlights the work of more than 300 women artists throughout the past five centuries in an effort to diversify art history. Kering's sponsorship is part of its patronage of arts and talented women who made a difference.

"*Great Women Painters* is an illuminating text that calls attention to a history of women painters who were overwritten and urges us all to re-examine what we know about one of the most celebrated mediums in art," said Laurent Claquin, president of Kering Americas, in a statement.



Dust jacket of "Great Women Painters," published by Phaidon. Image credit: Phaidon

Snapshot in time

The book tells the stories of women artists from 60 countries, including contemporary U.S. painters Jordan Casteel, Loie Hollowell, Hilary Pecis and Genesis Tramaine.

At the MCA's book launch last week, the four artists discussed their own work and that of women artists who have

inspired them in conversation with Madeleine Grynsztejn, the museum's Pritzker director.

The program was followed by a private dinner for the Chicago arts, design and fashion community where two limited-edition prints commissioned by Artspace were unveiled *Untitled Interior* by Ms. Pecis, available now, and a new photo edition by American artist Marilyn Minter that will be released Nov. 28.

A portion of the proceeds from the two works will benefit the MCA's Women Artists Initiative.



Pages from "Great Women Painters," published by Phaidon. Image credit: Phaidon

The day after the launch, the four artists also participated in a mentoring session for a group of local Chicago students and educators.

"The MCA is committed to women's empowerment in the arts, and initiating the discourse surrounding women's experiences in the historically male-dominated sphere of painting is just the beginning of a journey of education and accessibility," Ms. Grynsztejn said in a statement.

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