

THE HAMMER MUSEUM HONORS
ROBERT GOBER & TONY KUSHNER

AT THE 11TH ANNUAL
GALA IN THE GARDEN

WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM BOTTEGA VENETA
CO-CHAIRLED BY TOM HANKS, RITA WILSON & TOMAS MAIER
WITH TRIBUTES BY VIOLA DAVIS & CHARLES RAY

**MEDIA
ADVISORY**

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OVERVIEW

Los Angeles—The Hammer Museum presents its 11th annual Gala in the Garden on **Saturday, October 5, 2013**. The Hammer is thrilled to partner with **Bottega Veneta** on this year's Gala and thanks them for their tremendous support. Proceeds from the Gala will once again support the Hammer's dynamic and internationally acclaimed exhibitions and free public programs. Every year the Museum honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the arts. This year we honor two extraordinary creative forces—artist **Robert Gober** and playwright **Tony Kushner**. Artist **Charles Ray** will give the tribute to Gober and actor **Viola Davis** will be on hand to toast Kushner. Actors **Rita Wilson** and **Tom Hanks** will serve as co-chairs with **Tomas Maier**, Bottega Veneta Creative Director.

The Gala in the Garden is a highly anticipated event on Los Angeles' fall social calendar and attracts cultural and civic leaders, as well as many artists, collectors, and patrons of the arts. Last year's milestone event raised more than \$2 million for the Museum. Chef **Suzanne Goin** of Lucques will once again create the menu. Past honorees include **Barbara Kruger, Cindy Sherman, Matt Groening, Lari Pittman, Alice Waters, Charles Ray, Miuccia Prada, John Baldessari, Joan Didion, Ed Ruscha, Dave Eggers, and Frank Gehry**. Past tribute speakers and co-chairs have included **Steve Martin, Rachel Maddow, Neil Patrick Harris, Jane Fonda, Jeff Wall, Diane Keaton, Salman Rushdie, John Waters, Senator Edward Kennedy, Ben Stiller, Anjelica Huston, and Richard Serra**. The Gala has sold out in advance each of the past ten years.

Advance sales are now available in three price tiers: \$75,000 for a Champion table; \$50,000 for a Benefactor Table; and \$25,000 for a Patron Table. Individual tickets can also be purchased at each tier: \$7,500 for a Champion seat; \$5,000 for a Benefactor seat; and \$2,500 for a Patron seat. A limited number of Supporter tickets (\$1,500) are also available. **To purchase tickets call 310-443-7026 or email gala@hammer.ucla.edu.**

WHEN

Saturday, October 5, 2013

Cocktails	6:00pm–8:00pm
Dinner & Tribute Speeches	8:00pm–10:00pm
Musical Performance	10:00pm–10:30pm

ABOUT ROBERT GOBER

Robert Gober's meticulous sculptures explore sexuality, relationships, nature, politics, and religion. His work is often based on memories from his childhood or on familiar subject matter from around his home or studio. Sinks, doors, cribs, chairs, and body parts recur in his oeuvre. Among Gober's best-known works are large room-sized installations, sometimes incorporating running water and theatrical lighting. His work is made by hand in his studio with painstaking attention to detail.

Gober (born 1954) represented the United States at the 2001 Venice Biennale and has had one-person exhibitions at The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; the Serpentine Gallery, London; and, most recently, the Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Basel. In 2007 his work was the subject of a retrospective exhibition at the Schaulager, Basel. He lives and works in New York.

ABOUT TONY KUSHNER

Tony Kushner's plays include *A Bright Room Called Day*; *Angels in America, Parts One and Two*; *Slavs!*; *Homebody/Kabul*; the musical *Caroline, or Change* and the opera *A Blizzard on Marblehead Neck*, both with composer Jeanine Tesori; and *The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide To Capitalism And Socialism With A Key To The Scriptures*. He has adapted and translated Pierre Corneille's *The Illusion*, S.Y. Ansky's *The Dybbuk*, Bertolt Brecht's *The Good Person of Sezuan* and *Mother Courage and Her Children*; and the English-language libretto for the opera *Brundibár* by Hans Krasa. He wrote the screenplays for Mike Nichols' film of *Angels In America*, and for Steven Spielberg's *Munich* and *Lincoln*. His books include *Brundibar*, with illustrations by Maurice Sendak; *The Art of Maurice Sendak, 1980 to the Present*; and *Wrestling With Zion: Progressive Jewish-American Responses to the Palestinian/Israeli Conflict*, co-edited with Alisa Solomon. Kushner is the recipient of a Pulitzer Prize, two Tony Awards, three Obie Awards, two Evening Standard Awards, an Olivier Award, an Emmy Award, two Oscar nominations, and the Steinberg Distinguished Playwright Award, among other honors. He lives in Manhattan with his husband, Mark Harris.

ABOUT BOTTEGA VENETA

Discretion, quality, and craftsmanship — Bottega Veneta has created a new standard of luxury since its founding in Vicenza in 1966. Steeped in the traditions of Italy's master leather craftsmen and long celebrated for its extraordinary leather goods, Bottega Veneta has recently emerged as one of the world's premier luxury brands. The company's famous motto, "When your own initials are enough," expresses a philosophy of individuality and confidence that now applies to a range of products including women's and men's ready-to-wear, fine jewelry, furniture, and more.

While Bottega Veneta continues to grow, the qualities that define it are unchanging: outstanding craftsmanship, innovative design, contemporary functionality, and the highest quality materials. Also constant is Bottega Veneta's commitment to its ateliers, where artisans of remarkable skill combine traditional mastery with breathtaking innovation. Indeed, there is an unusual and inspired collaboration between artisan and designer at the heart of Bottega Veneta's approach to luxury, symbolized by the house's signature intrecciato woven leather. In the summer of 2006, in recognition of the importance of artisanal craftsmanship and the fragility of this traditional way of life, Bottega Veneta opened a school to train and support future generations of leather artisans.

The most recent chapter in Bottega Veneta's history began in February 2001, when the company was acquired by Kering, formerly known as Gucci Group. Creative Director Tomas Maier came on board in June of that year and presented his first collection, Spring-Summer 2002, to immediate critical acclaim. From the start, the house's sensibility was refined, sensuous, and intensely personal, designed for a customer who is sophisticated and self-assured. In the years since, Bottega Veneta has introduced exciting additions to the collection, including fragrance, fine jewelry, a watch, furniture, and home accessories, while continuing to offer an exclusive and coveted assortment of ready-to-wear, handbags, shoes, small leather goods, eyewear, luggage, and gifts.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

The Hammer Museum, a public arts unit of the University of California, Los Angeles, is dedicated to exploring the diversity of artistic expression through the ages. Its collections, exhibitions, and programs span the classic to the cutting-edge in art, architecture, and design, recognizing that artists play a crucial role in all aspects of culture and society.

The museum houses the Armand Hammer Collection of Old Master, Impressionist, and Post-Impressionist paintings and the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection. The Hammer's newest collection, the Hammer Contemporary Collection, is highlighted by works on paper, particularly drawings and photographs from Southern California. The museum also houses the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, comprising more than 45,000 prints, drawings, photographs, and artists' books from the Renaissance to the present; and oversees the management of the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden on the UCLA campus.

The Hammer presents major single-artist and thematic exhibitions of historical and contemporary art. It also presents approximately ten Hammer Projects exhibitions each year, providing international and local artists with a laboratory-like environment to create new work or to present existing work in a new context.

As a cultural center, the Hammer offers a diverse range of free public programs throughout the year, including lectures, readings, symposia, film screenings, and music performances. The Hammer's Billy Wilder Theater houses these widely acclaimed public programs and is the new home of the UCLA Film & Television Archive's renowned cinematheque.

For current program and exhibition information, call 310-443-7000 or visit www.hammer.ucla.edu. Tuesday–Friday 11am–8pm; Saturday & Sunday 11am–5pm; closed Mondays, July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

\$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65+) and UCLA Alumni Association members; free for museum members, students with identification, UC faculty/staff, military personnel, veterans, and visitors 17 and under. The museum is free on Thursdays for all visitors. Public programs are always free.

The Hammer is located at 10899 Wilshire Boulevard, at Westwood Boulevard. Parking is available under the Museum. Rate is \$3 for three hours with museum validation. Bicycles park free.

For group tour reservations and information, call 310-443-7041.