

# BERGGRUEN

GALLERY

## 2017 NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

February 28, 2017, New York, NY – When the American Academy of Arts and Letters holds its annual induction and award ceremony in mid-May, Calvin Trillin, secretary, will induct fourteen members into the 250-person organization and President Yehudi Wyner will induct three foreign honorary members. Joyce Carol Oates will deliver the centennial Blashfield Foundation Address. An exhibition of art, architecture, books, and manuscripts by new members and recipients of awards will be on view in the galleries from May 18 to June 11.

### Newly Elected Members of the Academy

#### Art

**MARY HEILMANN**, *artist*  
**JULIE MEHRETU**, *artist*  
**ANNABELLE SELLDORF**, *architect*  
**STANLEY WHITNEY**, *artist*

#### Literature

**HENRI COLE**, *poet*  
**JUNOT DÍAZ**, *writer*  
**AMY HEMPEL**, *writer*  
**EDWARD HIRSCH**, *poet*  
**URSULA K. LE GUIN**, *writer*  
**COLUM McCANN**, *writer*  
**ANN PATCHETT**, *writer*  
**KAY RYAN**, *poet*



Henri Cole

Junot Díaz

Mary Heilmann



Amy Hempel

Edward Hirsch

Ursula K. Le Guin



Colum McCann

Julie Mehretu

Ann Patchett



Kay Ryan

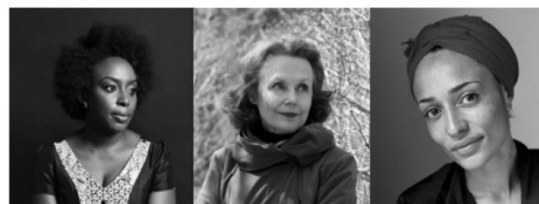
Annabelle Selldorf

Melinda Wagner



Stanley Whitney

Julia Wolfe



Chimamanda  
Ngozi Adichie

Kaija Saariaho

Zadie Smith

Photo credits: Junot Díaz – photograph by Nina Subin  
Ursula K. Le Guin – photograph by Marian Wood Kolisch

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## Music

**MELINDA WAGNER**, *composer*

**JULIA WOLFE**, *composer*

## Foreign Honorary Members

**CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE**, *writer of Nigeria*

**KAIJA SAARIAHO**, *composer of Finland*

**ZADIE SMITH**, *writer of England*

## THE ACADEMY

The American Academy of Arts and Letters was founded in 1898 as an honor society of the country's leading architects, artists, composers, and writers. Founding members include William Merritt Chase, Kenyon Cox, Daniel Chester French, Childe Hassam, Henry James, Theodore Roosevelt, Elihu Vedder, and Woodrow Wilson. In addition to electing new members as vacancies occur, the Academy seeks to "foster and sustain an interest in Literature, Music, and the Fine Arts" by administering over 70 awards and prizes, exhibiting art and manuscripts, funding performances of new works of musical theater, and purchasing artwork for donation to museums across the country. The organization is located in three landmark buildings, designed by McKim, Mead & White, Cass Gilbert, and Charles Pratt Huntington, on Audubon Terrace at 155 Street and Broadway.