

# I WANT A MUSEUM

to be. To gather together / I want the museum to welcome my noise my inadequacy and my struggle / I want the museum to wake up to this new world with necessity / I demand the museum to undo the division between the rational and the outrageous to help us imagine that which we have failed to see / I want a museum to hold difference and dissonance without fear / I need a museum where I can find more than myself / I need a museum to give me shelter from the monolithic, the dogmatic and more / I need the museum to always be where we explicitly show up for each other, I appear to you and you to me / *Вимагаю музею, в якому ми будемо відкриті одне до одного, Я до тебе і ти до мене* / I want the museum to escape the barriers of language / I want a museum that offers courage to all people / I want the museum to make space to overcome my voice silenced loudly before / *أريد متحفاً يتذكر كل شيء* / I need a museum to teach a new kind of vanishing point / I want a museum in which I can feel the traces of time in me / I want a museum committed to people / I want a museum to be a lived moment in time / *Ich will ein Museum als gelebten Augenblick* / I demand a museum beyond censorship / I want a museum to remember everything / I demand a museum where only visitors can profit / I want the museum for me to be seen and heard and felt / I need a museum to be alive / *Quiero un museo que sea ruidoso y tranquilo, claro y oscuro, concreto y abstracto* / I want a museum loud and quiet, bright and dark, concrete and abstract / *Хочу, щоб музей був галасливим і тихим, освітленим і затемненим, зрозумілим і загадковим* / *أريد أن يكون المتحف صاخباً وهادئاً، مشرقاً ومظلماً، ملموساً ومجرداً* / I need a museum in which I learn from that which is there and that which is missing / I want a museum that makes me realize I need to pay attention and look again / I want a museum to be a place where time expands / I want a museum where everyone is someone / I demand the museum to abolish the imperial mindset that gave rise to its current form / I want a museum to offer free food, a bathroom and education / I want a museum in which colors create freedom / I need a museum that addresses injustice / I want a museum to be a space to breathe / I need a museum to support a democratic people, in crisis, exhibitions should multiply, art activities should continue and increase. Because art is no luxury or pastime. It is a fundamental necessity / I need a museum to set time free / I want a museum resisting a formulaic approach to historical reckoning / I want a museum to feel its own floors tremble when other museums are destroyed in war / *Exijo al museo sentir como sus cimientos tiemblan cuando otros museos son destruidos en la guerra* / *أطالب المتحف أن يشعر بأرضه تهتز عندما تدمر متاحف أخرى في الحرب* / I need the museum to undo common assumptions of what is rational and what is outrageous to help us imagine ourselves and each other continuously anew / *Ich will ein Museum, das öffentliche Erinnerung als prekär reflektiert* / I want a museum that doesn't mistake its size for power / I want a museum to recognize that for culture to take place, our bodies must appear / I want a museum that inverts hierarchies and value systems in art and in people / I need a museum to welcome the ghosts scratching its surface from below / I want a museum that offers proximity and precarity without fear / I need a museum that does not own memory but creates spaces in which we can remember continuously anew / *Ich will ein Museum, das Menschenhass aushebelt* / I want the museum to be a public, and therefore already political space / I want a museum to be a place where truth can't run away from us / I want the museum to give us direct access to the art we need to demolish the limits of our knowledge / I want a museum where memory is not considered property / I need a museum to offer a space in which we spend less time antagonized and antagonizing / *أطالب بمتحف خارج نطاق الرقابة* / I want the museum to build coalitions, across colors, sounds, materials, cultures and affinities / I demand a museum that does not turn its back on the future / I demand a museum to be a site of collective study / I want the museum to be a space spurred by contemplation and empathy / I want the museum to be a place where people cannot help but speak, materializing the freedom and radicality of conversation / *Quiero un museo donde la verdad no se nos pueda escapar* / I want a museum to be a space where I can glance back at those who are looking / I want a museum to neither take over my memory nor my reason / I want a museum that can liberate time from the continuum of history to allow its revolutionary potential to rise / *Quiero un museo donde el potencial revolucionario del tiempo sea liberado del curso de la historia* / I want a museum to face history without fear / I want a museum to foster disorientation for me to linger with perception / I demand a museum to enable accountability / I need a museum where practice and theory is one / I want a museum to be a place that allows me to rest / I want the museum to laugh at its own prejudice / I want a museum to give us the tools to undo the regimes generated to numb us / I want a museum in which I don't walk from void to void, but rather stumble from present to present / *Ich will ein Museum der Jetztzeit* / *Quiero un museo que pueda albergar las diferencias y disonancia sin miedo* / I want a museum to eclipse banality / I want a museum to shake up comfort causing complacency / I demand a museum to never be a call to order / I want a museum to create its own unregulated wildness, to resist binding its objects and viewers to rules and instead release the wild in us, fusing our hunger into action / I want the museum to refuse the refusal of violent traditions / I want the museum to realize that those stripped of representation are still here / I need a museum that troubles unquestioned confidence / I want the museum to be a space in which things feel closer together, closer to me and to you and to us / *Вимагаю музей, який не відвертається від майбутнього* / I need a museum that doubts its own existence without fear / I want the museum to dismantle its paywall, its safety nets and its desire to entertain / *أحتاج إلى متحف يساعدنا على إعادة تقديم أنفسنا وبعضنا البعض مراراً وتكراراً* / I need the museum to start from scratch, because we need it now more than ever before / I want the museum to be a place of practiced liberation / I want the museum to let its spaces hum so its floors crack open / I want the museum to be the space where my feet start to dance and my voice can't help but sing / I need the museum to be a place of courageous vulnerability / *Ich brauche ein Museum, das weich, verletzbar und scharfsinnig ist* / I want the museum to offer spaces of resistance against the terror of disappearance / *أريد أن يكون المتحف مكاناً يتميز بالتأمل والتعاطف* / I need the museum to demolish the limits of our ability to find each other / I want the museum to arise of the organization of people, their acting and speaking together / I demand the museum to be open until 10pm / I want the museum to lead its viewers away from passive admiring to an active viewing, instilling an honest will to reenact / I want a museum where we can find those silenced, as they slip through the cracks of their absence into an inevitable presence / I want a museum to liberate my desire into a yet indeterminate form / I want the museum to be a place in which we can give ourselves over not only to visions considered our own, but new visions yet for us to imagine / I want...

# MANIFEST

is a project by Andrea Geyer (2017/2024). Centering you, the visitor to the museum rather than the museum itself, the declarations, desires, and requests that make up "Manifest" range from the practical to the ideological, and from the personal to the abstract. The list of demands stems from Geyer's research into the San Francisco Museum of (Modern) Art's founding director Grace McCann Morley and her belief in museums as integral to civil society and civic life. Morley led this museum from 1935-1958, establishing gallery tours, art history courses, a public art library, an art rental gallery, the first film program at an American museum, and a TV show "Art in Your Life." An advocate for modern art and cultural democracy, Morley was a staunch supporter of the diverse art community in the San Francisco Bay Area, as well as of the broader avant-garde movement throughout the Americas. Under Morley's direction, the museum was open until 10 p.m. As a result of these efforts, it garnered a following that was expansive and diverse in age, race, economic and cultural backgrounds. Morley wrote in 1950, "Art is an inseparable and essential part of human life." Geyer took Morley's mission to show the importance of art in every aspect of life and scripted a list of wants, needs, and demands directed toward museums as an invitation to reimagine what one expects and hopes for when engaging such institutions today. Additionally, the statements in "Manifest" draw from the many conversations the artist has had with colleagues in the field and beyond since the original conception of the work in 2017. Geyer also includes references in response to the 2016 U.S. presidential election (which took place while Geyer was writing the original script) that called for museums to be sites of resistance and sanctuary and has revisited the project in the complex political realities of the United States of America in 2023 and in 2024. Geyer invites you to contemplate your own needs and desires in relation to the museum today and express them on the posters that are part of this handout. You can share them back with any museum of your choice, and/or take them with you to either be kept or distributed. These expressions of wants, needs, and demands can be made anonymous or be signed, and will retain the authorship of each writer. [www.andreageyer.info](http://www.andreageyer.info) 2024 / edition 2: 500

# I WANT A MUSEUM

date: / /

place:

signed:

# I DEMAND A MUSEUM

# I NEED A MUSEUM

signed:

date: / / place:

signed:

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