

# THE TIMELINE: MATTRESS FACTORY

**1975**

Barbara Luderowski acquires 500 Sampsonia Way, a Stearns & Foster mattress warehouse built in 1900.

**1977**

The Mattress Factory becomes incorporated as a non-profit educational and cultural organization.

**1978**

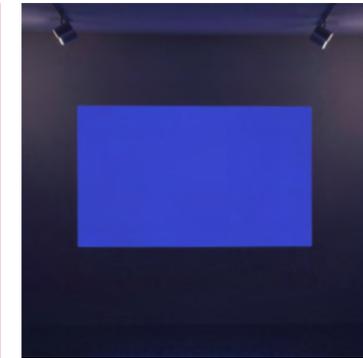
Artist Michael Olijnyk begins working at the Mattress Factory. He became Curator of Exhibitions in 1982, and is now Co-Director.

**1982**

The museum focuses on providing support for artists to create site-specific installations. The first exhibition of installations opens on May 8, 1982 with new work by Athena Tacha, Michael Olijnyk, and Diane Samuels.

**1983**

James Turrell works in residence to create new light installations, *Danaë* and *Pleiades*, the first works in the permanent collection.



**1986**

The Mattress Factory purchases three buildings: one at 1414 Monterey Street that becomes a gallery space, and two on North Taylor Avenue that become the artists' residence.

**1990**

The Mattress Factory purchases two empty lots adjacent to the main building for use as a parking lot for museum visitors and a garden designed by artist Winifred Lutz.



**1991**

Noted artists John Cage, Ann Hamilton, Tatsuo Miyajima and Christian Boltanski create new installations in collaboration with the 51st Carnegie International.



**1994**

The Mattress Factory is the first American museum to exhibit work by the controversial British artist, Damien Hirst.

**1995**

*Artists of Central and Eastern Europe* which presented new installations by 10 artists. It was the first of many exhibitions featuring work by artists from areas of the world undergoing change.

**1997**

The Mattress Factory celebrates its 20th anniversary with the dedication of Winifred Lutz's Garden and the first annual Urban Garden Party.

**1997**

Kiki Smith creates three new installations based on research she conducted at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History.



**1999**

Ten artists from China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Thailand work in residence to create new work for *Installations by Asian Artists in Residence*.

**2000**

*Visual Sound* is curated by Rolf Julius, with work by artists from the U.S., Japan, Germany, France and Canada who use sound in their installations.

**2001**

The Education Department is established, staffed by an Education Director and Program Coordinator.

**2002**

The Mattress Factory celebrates its 25th anniversary with a comprehensive exhibition of light installations by James Turrell.



**2003**

Two row houses on Jacksonia Way are creatively adapted as a new wing for offices and an education studio.

**2004**

The Mattress Factory presents a groundbreaking exhibition of new work by 10 Cuban artists, even though the artists were prevented from coming to the U.S.

**2007**

The museum presents *New Installations: India*, a two-part exhibition featuring work by 8 artists.



**2009**

The estate of Greer Lankton bequests *It's all about ME, Not You*, to the Mattress Factory, and it is permanently installed.

**2010**

The exhibition *Queloides: Race and Racism in Cuban Contemporary Art* is presented in collaboration with University of Pittsburgh's Center for Latin American Studies.

