

Michael Govan
CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director



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Michael Govan is the CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). Since coming to LACMA in 2006 he has overseen the transformation of the 20-acre campus with buildings by Renzo Piano and monumental artworks by Chris Burden, Michael Heizer, Robert Irwin, Barbara Kruger, and others. At LACMA, Govan has pursued his vision of contemporary artists and architects interacting with the museum's historic collections, as evidenced by exhibition and gallery designs in collaboration with artists John Baldessari, Jorge Pardo, and Franz West, and architects Frank O. Gehry, Fred Fisher, Michael Maltzan, and others. Under his leadership, the museum has acquired more than 27,000 works for the permanent collection, by donation or purchase.

From 1994 to 2005, Govan was president and director of Dia Art Foundation in New York, where he spearheaded the creation of Dia:Beacon. From 1988 to 1994, he was deputy director of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and worked with Guggenheim branches in New York, Venice, and Bilbao. Prior to that Govan helped found MASS MoCA while at Williams College, where he studied art history and fine art.