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'Mythic Proportions: Painting in the 1980s' debuts at MoCA

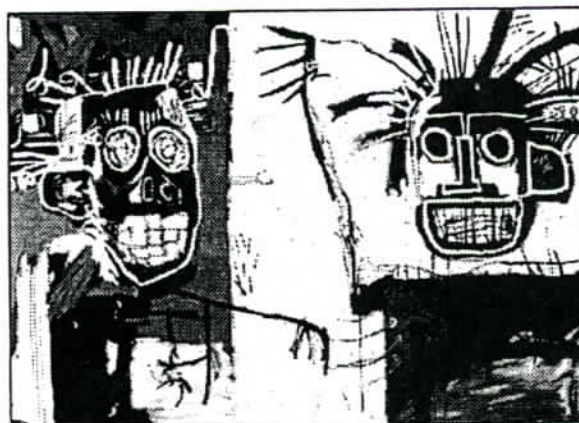
BY ROBERT HAMILTON

The Museum of Contemporary Art (MoCA), located at 770 NE 125 St. in North Miami, will present the first major United States museum exhibition to examine painting's dominant role in the 1980s from a historical perspective and explore the relationship between the art of that decade to the work that came to define the 1990s.

"Mythic Proportions: Painting in the 1980s" is on view at MoCA through May 13. The exhibition focuses on the reemergence of painting in the 1980s and its critical reception at the time. Presenting pivotal paintings by the artistic luminaries whose work embodied the confidence and expectation of the decade, it also will examine the artists whose concept-based work commented on the nature of painting, issues of originality and the art world system itself.

The exhibition is curated by MoCA director Bonnie Clearwater. A lavishly illustrated catalog featuring an essay by Clearwater accompanies the exhibition.

Featured artists in the exhibition include: Donald Baechler, Georg Baselitz, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Ross Bleckner, Sandro Chia, Francesco Clemente, George Condo, Enzo Cucchi, Eric Fischl, Peter



This untitled 1982 work in acrylic and oil stick on canvas by Jean Michel Basquiat, will be part of the "Mythic Proportions: Painting in the 1980s" exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MoCA).

Halley, Keith Haring, Anselm Kiefer, Sherrie Levine, Allan McCollum, Elizabeth Murray, Sigmar Polke, Susan Rothenberg, Richard Prince, Gerhard Richter, David Salle, Kenny Scharf, Julian Schnabel, Phillip Taaffe, Terry Winters and Christopher Wool.

Artist Ross Bleckner will participate in a free informal discussion about art on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., at the Beach House Bal Harbour. This event is presented by MoCA in collaboration with Rubell Hotels and the Rubell Family Collection, and is part of the "Pillow Talk" series. For reservations, phone 305-695-7951.

For information about the exhibit "Mythic Proportions: Painting in the 1980s," phone MoCA at 305-893-6211.