

Jarrod Rawlins
Director, Curatorial Affairs
Museum of Old and New Art (Mona)

Dear Mr Rawlins:

Greetings from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals – PETA entities have over 9 million members and supporters worldwide. I'm writing with a suggestion that will perfectly compliment your *Namedropping* exhibition, during which you play Wu-Tang Clan's largely unheard album: why not also show RZA's famous video about speciesism – in which he advocates for treating *everyone* with respect – while also serving only plant-based foods at your venue's eateries during the exhibition?

Adding these simple but important elements to the June events would turn the listening party into a wholistic experience that reflects a truth that more and more people – including most members of Wu-Tang Clan – know: all living, feeling beings are individuals, and their lives are intrinsically important.

From confining fish to a plate to inviting the slaughter of an animal during Dark Mofo, Mona's track record when it comes to animals leaves quite a bloody trail – but this could be your shot at redemption. RZA's video is a visually stunning reminder that, no matter what race, age, gender, or species we are, we are all the same in all the ways that matter.

Like humans, cows form social bonds and even have best friends, rats show empathy and compassion, and chickens hold grudges. Sheep display disappointment, and goats partake in optimism. All animals experience emotions. Many species grieve lost loved ones, and all animals feel frustration, anguish, and pain – especially when confined, exploited, and slaughtered for human enjoyment – whether it's for food, clothing, or "art".

Music brings people together. Mona can elevate this experience and ensure it also unites all species, simply by embracing the words of RZA himself: "Our task must be to break free from prejudice and to see ourselves in everyone else."

Thank you for considering showing this video at your gallery and serving only vegan food at your dining venues during the *Namedropping* exhibition.

Kindest regards,

Mimi Bekhechi

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

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