



March 2017

As a veterinarian and independent consultant for the Guggenheim Museum and its five community partners in Lenka Clayton and Jon Rubin's project *...circle through New York*, it is my responsibility to ensure the physical and mental health of Pinkie, the salmon-crested cockatoo traveling as the representative of Pet Resources for the six-month duration of the project from March through August 2017. In my affiliation with the Center for Avian and Exotic Medicine, I will perform regular veterinary site visits to check on Pinkie's health as she travels to each of the project's venues and will answer questions about her care. I am also on call in case of an emergency.

Based on my observations, Pinkie is a beautiful bird with an amazing personality. She is intelligent, calm, curious, and very playful at times. She trusts her human companions and seems to enjoy meeting new people as well. Her medical exams show that she is a middle-aged bird in good health. It is for all of these reasons that, in my professional medical opinion, Pinkie can safely participate in this social work of art.

Through numerous conversations and pre-planning measures, great care has been taken to ensure that Pinkie has a stable environment, good nutrition, and patient and observant caretakers in each location. I will be monitoring Pinky for signs of stress in each new location, but at the time of writing this letter, based on my examinations, all indications are that she is taking it all in stride, and enjoying the attention.

I have advised on previous contemporary art projects involving birds, including Duke Riley's *Fly By Night* (organized by Creative Time in 2016). Connecting diverse publics to our animal co-inhabitants remains a powerful part of how we can better teach others about the animal world. This project unveils ways that Pinkie can be seen for the unique creature that she truly is, as a source of inspiration and a participant in the creation of new bonds and unexpected interactions that are taking place in *...circle through New York*.

Sincerely,
Dr. Alexandra Wilson, DVM