

The Museum of Modern Art

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REINSTALLED THIRD-FLOOR PAINTING AND SCULPTURE GALLERIES FEATURE RENOVATED AND EXPANDED GALLERIES FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

Second-floor Painting and Sculpture Galleries Closed for Summer
Drawings Galleries, Relocated to Second Floor, to Open in September

The Museum of Modern Art has inaugurated a newly renovated and expanded space for the display of contemporary art. The new contemporary galleries, which now comprise nearly 11,000 square feet of space, are part of the Museum's third-floor Painting and Sculpture Galleries, all of which have been reinstalled by Kirk Varnedoe, chief curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, with work ranging from Abstract Expressionism to Pop art and Minimalism to recent work. The contemporary galleries contain a display of nearly forty works made since the mid-1960s, some two-thirds of which have been acquired by the Museum in the last five years.

The installation of large-scale European and American work in these galleries emphasizes the expanded space with such major sculptural works as Richard Long's *Cornish Stone Circle* (1978), an installation consisting of slate stones disposed on the gallery floor; Louise Bourgeois's *Articulated Lair* (1986), a room-size installation whose walls are hung with biomorphic, pendulous rubber forms; Mario Merz's *Places without Streets (Luoghi senza strada)* (1987), comprising a wire-mesh igloo form and a row of blue neon numerals on a 21 by 28-foot bed of twigs; and David Hammons's *High Falutin'* (1990), a construction of found materials whose multiple references range from a basketball hoop to an African mask. One of the highlights of the installation is Roy Lichtenstein's *Interior with Mobile* (1992), a radically

simplified yet highly complex picture of a bedroom. Other artists represented in these galleries include Joseph Beuys, Christian Boltanski, Eva Hesse, Melvin Edwards, Martin Kippenberger, Gordon Matta-Clark, Sigmar Polke, Martin Puryear, Dieter Roth, Michelle Stuart, and Jackie Winsor.

The new galleries for contemporary art will be used for the display of both the collection and temporary exhibitions. On August 15, these galleries close in preparation for the exhibition **ROBERT RYMAN** (September 26, 1993 - January 4, 1994). A new collection installation follows the Ryman exhibition.

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While the second-floor Painting and Sculpture Galleries, devoted to the years 1880 - 1945, are closed for renovation and reinstallation through the summer, a selection of some twenty-five masterworks normally on view on that level is installed in the opening sequence of third-floor galleries. Included in the selection are Paul Cézanne's *Bather* (ca. 1885), Vincent van Gogh's *Starry Night* (1889), Pablo Picasso's *Les Femmes d'Alger (O. J. R. M.)* (1911), and Henri Matisse's *Dance (first version)* (1909). The rest of the third-floor galleries feature works from the collection of Painting and Sculpture from 1945 to 1965, including examples by Francis Bacon, Willem de Kooning, Jasper Johns, Agnes Martin, Claes Oldenburg, Jackson Pollock, Robert Rauschenberg, Frank Stella, Antoni Tàpies, and Andy Warhol. The Drawings Galleries, formerly situated on the third floor, have been relocated to the second floor, and open in September with highlights from the collection.