

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**The Museum of Modern Art****FOUR BOLD CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS FEATURED IN ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY SERIES AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART**

New Photography 14:

Jeanne Dunning, Olafur Eliasson, Rachel Harrison, Sam Taylor-Wood
October 15, 1998-January 12, 1999

Each fall for the past 14 years, The Museum of Modern Art's New Photography series has highlighted individual achievements in photography by presenting bodies of significant contemporary work. Since 1985, 57 artists from 12 countries have had their work shown in this forum. This year's exhibition, *New Photography 14: Jeanne Dunning, Olafur Eliasson, Rachel Harrison, Sam Taylor-Wood*, presents four artists whose ideas have been nourished by their experiences in other mediums, notably video, installation art, and sculpture. The exhibition opens October 15 and remains on view through January 12, 1999, in the Edward Steichen Photography Center on the Museum's second floor.

In her videos and photographs, Jeanne Dunning (American, b. 1960, lives in Chicago) depicts the female body covered in thick gelatinous substances that resemble pudding or bodily fluids. Both alluring and repulsive, these large graphic works explore ideas of body image, femininity, and consumption with formal elegance and an unsettling beauty. Dunning's work has been included in numerous solo and group exhibitions, as well as in biennials in Sydney, Australia, and New York City. Five of Dunning's recent photographs will be presented.

For the past six years, Olafur Eliasson (Icelandic, b. 1967, lives in Berlin) has photographed his native landscape and arranged images of the geographical formations indigenous to the region in gridlike configurations. Each series focuses on natural phenomena: for example, islands, ice formations, caves. The individual pictures document specific places at particular moments, but when arranged in grids the works describe broader themes. Shifting patterns of light, shape, and color emerge and the idiosyncrasies of a single image give way to an overall subtlety and abstraction. Eliasson has exhibited his work at galleries in New York, London, and Rotterdam and in biennials in São Paulo, Brazil, and Sydney, Australia. Recent series of photographs will be on display.

Rachel Harrison (American, b. 1966, lives in New York) constructs a hybrid art that combines photography, sculpture, and installation. She merges the two- and the three-dimensional by inserting photographs into fabricated works made of Styrofoam, papier-mâché, and common household materials, setting off a dynamic play between object and image. Formally provocative and at first conceptually baffling, these works suggest absurd leaps of logic that are often greatly amusing. Harrison has shown in solo and group exhibitions in New York City. Several recent and new works will be presented.

Sam Taylor-Wood (British, b. 1967, lives in London) makes large-format panoramic photographs staged in well-appointed apartments. In these

works, actors and friends enact enigmatic vignettes that are, for all their obvious contrivance, both intriguing and seductive. Because of the size of the works--the photograph in this exhibition is 25 feet long by 42 inches high--the viewer is invited to create an oddly ambiguous dramatic narrative. An audiotape recorded during the camera's five-second pan of the scene is played in the gallery from speakers next to the photograph. Best known for her work in film and video, Taylor-Wood has exhibited throughout Europe and is currently a finalist for England's Turner Prize.

This exhibition is made possible by Banana Republic.

New Photography 14: Jeanne Dunning, Olafur Eliasson, Rachel Harrison, Sam Taylor-Wood is organized by M. Darsie Alexander, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Photography.

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