

The Museum of Modern Art

50th Anniversary



NO. 1
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FACT SHEET

- EXHIBITION:** NEW WORK ON PAPER I
- DATES:** The Museum of Modern Art, New York
February 14 - April 21, 1981
- SPONSOR:** This exhibition has been organized with the aid of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C. and is dedicated to the Endowment on the occasion of its 15th Anniversary.
- DIRECTOR:** John Elderfield, Director of the Department of Drawings, The Museum of Modern Art
- CONTENTS:** NEW WORK ON PAPER I is the first in a planned series of exhibitions, each of which is intended to show a relatively small number of artists through a broad and representative selection of their recent work on paper. Emphasis is placed on new work, with occasional glances backward to earlier production where the character of the art especially requires it, and on artists or kinds of art not seen in depth at the Museum before. Beyond this, no restrictions are imposed on the series, which may include exhibitions devoted to heterogeneous and to highly compatible groups of artists, and selections of work ranging from traditional drawing to works on paper in media of all kinds. Without exception, however, the artists included in each exhibition are presented not as a definitive selection of outstanding contemporary talents but as a choice, limited by necessities of space, of only a few of those whose achievement might warrant their inclusion.
- The eight artists represented in NEW WORK ON PAPER I are all in their late thirties and early to mid forties. Their art is extremely various, ranging from objective realism to lyrical abstraction, and from mural-sized draftsmanship to diaristic and almost miniaturist drawing. But all in their different ways seek to escape the constraints and restrictions of recent modernism and share a desire to re-enrich traditional modern forms either through a new sense of iconic vigor or through sensuous complication, and sometimes through both. They are: Jake Berthot, Dan Christensen, Alan Cote, Tom Holland, Yvonne Jacquette, Ken Kiff, Joan Snyder and William Tucker.

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PUBLICATION: New Work on Paper I by John Elderfield, Director of the Department of Drawings, will present an analysis of what the eight artists are concerned with, as well as the situation for art in general and drawing in particular. The 56-page book, including 5 color and 18 black-and-white illustrations, is being published by The Museum of Modern Art to accompany the exhibition. It will be available in the Museum bookstores in February. Paperbound, \$4.95.

PRESS PREVIEW: Tuesday, February 10, 1981, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

PUBLIC OPENING: Saturday, February 14, 1981

For further information, please contact Luisa Kreisberg, Director, ^{1/81}(212) 956-2648, or Angela Wigan, 956-7294, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019.