

The Museum of Modern Art

JOHN ELDERFIELD

Since 1980 John Elderfield has been director of the Department of Drawings at The Museum of Modern Art, where he also holds the position of curator in the Department of Painting and Sculpture. He is the author of the monograph Helen Frankenthaler, published in January 1989 by Harry N. Abrams, Inc., and coordinated the Museum's showing of HELEN FRANKENTHALER: A PAINTINGS RETROSPECTIVE.

Mr. Elderfield has organized numerous exhibitions since he joined the Museum in 1975, including THE DRAWINGS OF RICHARD DIEBENKORN (1988), MORRIS LOUIS (1986), KURT SCHWITTERS (1985), CONTRASTS OF FORM (1985), THE DRAWINGS OF HENRI MATISSE (1985), THE MODERN DRAWING (1983), NEW WORK ON PAPER (1981), THE MASTERWORKS OF EDVARD MUNCH (1979), MATISSE IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART (1978-79), and THE WILD BEASTS: FAUVISM AND ITS AFFINITIES (1976). He is also the author of the catalogues for each of those exhibitions, as well as other publications such as European Master Paintings from Swiss Collections (1976). He received the 1986 Mitchell Prize for an outstanding publication on twentieth-century art for Kurt Schwitters.

Mr. Elderfield has written extensively for many international art journals on subjects ranging from Cézanne to the American avant-garde. He has served as contributing editor to Artforum and Studio International for several years. His other publication credits include a critical introduction to Hugo Ball's The Flight Out of Time and The Cut-Outs of Henri Matisse.

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Born in Yorkshire, England, in 1943, John Elderfield is a graduate of the University of Leeds, England. He received his Doctor of Philosophy degree at the Courtauld Institute of Art at the University of London. He held a Harkness Fellowship at Yale University from 1970 to 1972, and was a recipient of a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship in 1973. From 1973 to 1975 he taught art history at the University of Leeds.