

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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FACT SHEET

EXHIBITION THE DRAWINGS OF RICHARD DIEBENKORN

DATES November 17, 1988 - January 10, 1989

ORGANIZATION John Elderfield, Director, Department of Drawings, The Museum of Modern Art

SPONSORSHIP The exhibition is supported in part by grants from the Bohen Foundation and the New York State Council on the Arts.

FOCUS Richard Diebenkorn first attracted notice for the highly personal form of Abstract Expressionism, often evocative of landscape, that he developed in the early fifties while working in the San Francisco Bay Area and in New Mexico. By 1956 his search for a new direction in his art had led him to representation, and over the next decade he gained increasing acclaim as the leader of Bay Area figurative painting. In 1966 he moved to Santa Monica in Southern California and a year later began the Ocean Park series of abstract paintings that have established him among the finest contemporary artists. Despite Diebenkorn's reputation as a painter, his drawings are not well known.

CONTENT This exhibition is the first full-scale survey of Diebenkorn's drawings, offering a rich and intimate view of his career. It contains approximately 180 works on paper, including drawings in ink, pencil, and charcoal; watercolors; gouaches; and works in mixed mediums. Over a third of the works have never been exhibited before.

PUBLICATION The Drawings of Richard Diebenkorn by John Elderfield. 208 pages. 186 illustrations, 86 color illustrations, and 20 duotones. Copublished by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, and The Houston Fine Art Press. Clothbound, \$50.00; paperbound, \$30.00; available in the Museum Store.

TRAVEL The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (March 10 - May 14, 1989); the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (June 14 - August 27, 1989); and The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C. (September 23 - November 26, 1989)

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