

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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FACT SHEET

EXHIBITION INFORMATION ART: DIAGRAMMING MICROCHIPS

DATES September 6 - October 30, 1990

ORGANIZATION Cara McCarty, Associate Curator, Department of Architecture and Design, The Museum of Modern Art

SPONSORSHIP This exhibition is made possible by the Intel Corporation Foundation.

CONTENT The integrated circuit is among the smallest, most complex devices ever invented and one of the most sophisticated products of our technological society. Most measure approximately one-quarter-inch square and may contain up to several million electronic components. Too small for the unaided eye to decipher, integrated circuits can be designed today only with computer assistance. This exhibition makes microcircuits visible, revealing the sheer intricacy of their patterns and providing clues to the effort and precision required to produce a single design.

The exhibition presents thirty computer-generated drawings of twenty circuits, along with the actual chips. Hundreds of times larger than the circuits themselves, these diagrams are used by engineers as maps for guidance in correcting or verifying a circuit design. Powerful and provocative images in their own right, they are some of the most beautiful and exquisitely crafted artifacts of the computer age. The exhibition includes designs by AT&T Bell Laboratories, Digital Equipment Corp., Hewlett-Packard Company, IBM, Intel, LSI Logic Corp., Texas Instruments, and the University of Pennsylvania, among others.

PUBLICATION Information Art: Diagramming Microchips by Cara McCarty. 48 pages. 28 color and 15 black-and-white illustrations. Available in The MoMA Book Store.

TRAVEL A national tour is planned.

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For further information or photographic materials, contact the Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9750.