

The Museum of Modern Art

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April 22, 1993

JOHN ELDERFIELD NAMED CHIEF CURATOR AT LARGE AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Richard E. Oldenburg, Director, The Museum of Modern Art, has announced the appointment of John Elderfield as Chief Curator at Large. This newly created position will allow Mr. Elderfield, who has served as Director of the Department of Drawings since 1980 and Curator in the Department of Painting and Sculpture since 1975, to devote more of his time to his interests in writing and organizing exhibitions. Mr. Elderfield's new appointment corresponds to a change in titles for all curatorial department heads from Director to Chief Curator, as of July 1, 1993.

Mr. Elderfield will continue to serve as Editor of *Studies in Modern Art*, the Museum's annual scholarly journal devoted to the collection, which was established in 1990. Until the appointment of Mr. Elderfield's successor as Director of the Department of Drawings, he will also serve as Acting Director of the Department.

Mr. Oldenburg stated, "John Elderfield has contributed a high level of scholarship to the field of modern art since he joined the Museum's staff nearly twenty years ago. The Matisse retrospective, which John directed, culminated his long study of Matisse and his organization of several thematic exhibitions on Matisse's work in various media. In his new capacity, in addition to his other responsibilities, John will be available to assist me in coordinating various aspects of exhibition and publication policy and planning. We are very pleased to have John on our curatorial staff and look forward to the realization of many exciting projects in which he expects to be involved in the years to come."

Mr. Elderfield, who organized the Museum's celebrated HENRI MATISSE: A RETROSPECTIVE last year, has also organized MATISSE IN MOROCCO (1990), 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), 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).

Mr. Elderfield is the author of numerous exhibition catalogues and publications, including the catalogue accompanying the HENRI MATISSE exhibition. He received the 1986 Mitchell Prize for an outstanding publication on twentieth-century art for *Kurt Schwitters*. His other publication credits include an edition of Hugo Ball's *The Flight Out of Time*, *The Cut-Outs of Henri Matisse*, and *Frankenthaler*. Mr. Elderfield has also written extensively for many international art journals, on subjects ranging from Cézanne to the American avant-garde, and has served as Contributing Editor to *Artforum* and *Studio International*.

John Elderfield was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1943. He is a graduate of the University of Leeds, and received his Doctor of Philosophy at the Courtauld Institute of Art of 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, Mr. Elderfield taught art history at the University of Leeds.

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