

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release

PATTERSON SIMS APPOINTED DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

October 12, 1995.....Glenn D. Lowry, Director of The Museum of Modern Art, has announced the appointment of Patterson Sims as Deputy Director for Education. He is currently Associate Director for Art and Exhibitions and Curator of Modern Art at the Seattle Art Museum. As Deputy Director for Education, Mr. Sims will be responsible for the Museum's Department of Education, the Library and Archives, and the deployment of new technologies. His appointment is effective February 15, 1996.

David Rockefeller, Jr., Trustee of The Museum of Modern Art and Chairman of its Trustee Committee for Education, stated, "MoMA is, above all, a place of education. The new Deputy Directorship underlines Glenn Lowry's appreciation of that fact, and the appointment of Patterson Sims -- whom I have observed at work both here and in Seattle -- is wonderful news. I look forward to supporting the vision which Glenn and Patterson will be crafting."

Mr. Lowry added, "Patterson comes to us with an extraordinary background in the art world and with a profound understanding and sensitivity to art and education. He is a man of great integrity, intelligence, and insight whose background in curatorial work will greatly enhance our educational initiatives. I look forward to working closely with him as we expand and strengthen the Museum's educational mission."

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Kirk Varnedoe, Chief Curator of the Department of Painting and Sculpture, said, "The curatorial staff at this museum fully supports the increased importance that Glenn Lowry is giving to the Museum's educational goals in the broadest sense. My fellow chief curators and I welcome Patterson Sims as a colleague with a full understanding of curatorial matters, as well as a dedicated commitment to those educational goals."

Mr. Sims stated, "The opportunity to work at The Museum of Modern Art is an extraordinary one, and it is most exciting to take a curatorial background and move it more completely into the educational realm. With each new project I have undertaken, education has played an increasingly crucial role in our engagement with the art. I believe that through technology and an even closer working relationship between curators and educators, the Museum will make education even more central to its mission. I greatly look forward to working with Trustees and staff to realize the goals of diversifying MoMA's audience and of helping that audience to appreciate the Museum's collections and programs."

During his eight-year tenure at the Seattle Art Museum, Mr. Sims organized numerous exhibitions, including WILLEM DE KOONING IN SEATTLE: SELECTED WORKS FROM 1940 TO 1985 IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS (1995), FRED WILSON'S THE MUSEUM: MIXED METAPHORS (1993), DALE CHIHULY: INSTALLATIONS 1964-1992 (1992), and MARK TANSEY: ART AND SOURCE (1990, toured nationally). He has also been deeply committed to the Museum's support of regional artists in its DOCUMENTS NORTHWEST SERIES. Mr. Sims has been instrumental in developing the museum's audioguide to the permanent collection and its interactive software program. In conjunction

with his curatorial work, he has organized numerous public lectures and collaborated with the Education Department there.

Prior to Seattle, Mr. Sims served as the first Associate Curator of the Permanent Collection, Whitney Museum of American Art (1976-87), where he organized many exhibitions of works drawn from the collection. He also coorganized five WHITNEY BIENNIAL EXHIBITIONS. Previously, Mr. Sims was Assistant Director of O.K. Harris Works of Art, New York (1969-76).

Mr. Sims did his undergraduate work in art history at Trinity College, Hartford, and at the New School College of the New School for Social Research, New York, where he received his B.A. in 1972. He has taught art history at the School of Continuing Education, New York University (1975-77 and 1984-86) and has written and lectured extensively on modern art.

Mr. Sims serves on the boards of the Studio in a School Association, New York; The Fabric Workshop, Philadelphia; the NEA Federal Advisory Committee on International Exhibitions and the IRS Modern Art Review Panel, Washington, D.C.; The Pike Place Public Market Foundation, Seattle; and Art/Press, Los Angeles.

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