

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
June 1997

THREE EXHIBITIONS OPENING IN THE FALL AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

On the Edge: Contemporary Art from the Werner and Elaine Dannheisser Collection

September 30, 1997–January 20, 1998

Egon Schiele: The Leopold Collection, Vienna

October 12, 1997–January 4, 1998

Achille Castiglioni: Design!

October 16, 1997–January 6, 1998

On the Edge: Contemporary Art from the Werner and Elaine Dannheisser Collection

September 30, 1997–January 20, 1998

Media Preview: Monday, September 29, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The Museum celebrates the recent donation of the Werner and Elaine Dannheisser Collection with a major exhibition of works selected from the more than eighty paintings, sculptures, video installations, photographs, and drawings included in the gift. Assembled over the last fifteen years, the Dannheissers' collection of contemporary art is one of the most daring and focused of its kind. Notable for prime examples of work by both established and emerging artists, including Carl Andre, Richard Artschwager, Matthew Barney, Joseph Beuys, Tony Cragg, Katharina Fritsch, Andreas Gursky, On Kawara, Anselm Kiefer, Jeff Koons, Richard Long, Brice Marden, Reinhard Mucha, Robert Ryman, Richard Serra, Cindy Sherman, Thomas Struth, and Lawrence Weiner, the Dannheisser Collection also incorporates large concentrations of work by Robert Gober, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Bruce Nauman, and Sigmar Polke. The exhibition is organized by Robert Storr, Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture.

The publication accompanying this exhibition is made possible by a generous grant from Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro.

Egon Schiele: The Leopold Collection, Vienna

October 12, 1997–January 4, 1998

Media Preview: Wednesday, October 8, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Austrian Expressionist Egon Schiele (1890–1918) is the focus of this exhibition of works from the Leopold Collection in Vienna. Presenting approximately 150 of Schiele's oils, gouaches, watercolors, and drawings from 1905 through 1918, the exhibition sheds light on a large portion of the artist's oeuvre that has remained relatively unknown in the United States. Schiele, one of the leading contributors to the Austrian modernist

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movement, produced an extensive body of work before his death at the age of twenty-eight. Whether portraits, figural/allegorical compositions, or landscapes, Schiele's works were a poignant reflection of the contemporaneous intellectual and psychoanalytic thought in Vienna. Schiele was especially gifted as a draftsman, and his most powerful works—unashamedly erotic male and female nudes—portray the human figure in various contortions through a highly idiosyncratic style. Expressing emotions ranging from despair to passion, the figures capture a sense of urgency and crisis that conveys the malaise of modern man, often drawing upon symbolic representation and metaphor. The exhibition, organized by Magdalena Dabrowski, Senior Curator, Department of Drawings, will be accompanied by a catalogue that will be the first English-language publication of the artist's work in the Leopold Collection.

Achille Castiglioni: Design!

October 16, 1997–January 6, 1998

Media Preview: Wednesday, October 15, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This retrospective devoted to the Italian architect and designer Achille Castiglioni (b. 1918) presents works from all periods of his remarkably long and productive career. Although loved and admired by designers worldwide, his work has never before been the subject of a museum exhibition in the United States. Best known for his furniture, lighting, and exhibition work, Castiglioni, who collaborated with his brother Pier Giacomo until 1968, has created finely styled, highly imaginative designs for items as diverse as ashtrays, glassware, bathroom fixtures, and vacuum cleaners. Expressive and playful, his work conjures surprising associations: a tractor seat and a bicycle saddle become stools, a bookshelf turns into a spiral staircase. The exhibition, featuring displays of his most interesting pieces, also contains reconstructions of interiors designed by Castiglioni for exhibitions in 1957, 1965, and 1984, where the designer arranged domestic objects in innovative combinations. Also included are full-scale drawings of furniture and objects from 1946 to the present. The exhibition is organized by Paola Antonelli, Associate Curator, Department of Architecture and Design. It expands upon an exhibition produced by Cosmit, the coordinator of the annual Salone del Mobile, the furniture fair in Milan.

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