

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
September 1997

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART SHOWCASES THE ACQUISITION OF SIGNIFICANT CONTEMPORARY DRAWINGS

**Ninety-One New Works on Paper, Including Large-Scale Installations
by Marlene Dumas, Mike Kelly, Toba Khedoori,
Raymond Pettibon, and Kiki Smith**

Over the past decade, more than 200 contemporary works on paper have been acquired by the Department of Drawings at The Museum of Modern Art. Ninety-one of these will be featured in the upcoming exhibition *A Decade of Collecting: Recent Acquisitions in Contemporary Drawings*, opening on September 18, 1997 and continuing through January 13, 1998.

Among the works in the exhibition are *Chlorosis* (1994), a 24-piece installation by South African artist Marlene Dumas; *Travelogue* (1983), an eight-drawing series from the larger *Monkey Island* project by the California artist Mike Kelly; *Untitled (doors)* of 1995, an 11-foot triptych by Toba Khedoori; 17 works made by Raymond Pettibon between 1987 and 1992; and *A Man* (1990), a wall-sized work by Kiki Smith.

In addition, the exhibition will feature process-based work by David Hammons, Anish Kapoor, and Gabriel Orozco; drawings for sculptures by the Cuban artist K'cho and the British artist Rachel Whiteread, as well as new work by David Moreno, Bruce Nauman, Larry Pittman, Nancy Rubins, Luc Tuymans, and others.

"The Museum's collecting activity over the past ten years has been of a rich and varied nature," commented Margit Rowell, Chief Curator, Department of Drawings.

"The Department of Drawings has attempted not only to fill out the narrative of certain

-more-

historical movements but to add works that enrich and expand the canonical reading of art history as we may reassess it today.”

One of the Department’s aims, she adds, is “to recognize and collect in depth the work of certain living artists, as well as to be attentive to art being made now, both in Europe and the Americas.”

This exhibition is the second of two concurrent exhibitions devoted to recent acquisitions. It is the first exhibition in over a decade to concentrate on entirely contemporary additions to the collections. According to Ms. Rowell, this exhibition, like the one devoted to modern drawings that preceded it, “reflects the taste and discernment of those who have actively contributed to the constitution of the collection in recent years, including the Trustee Committee on Drawings and, most recently, The Friends of Contemporary Drawing, an adjunct group of collectors and others interested in contemporary work on paper.”

* * *

No. 56

For more information contact Mary Lou Strahlendorff, Department of Communications, 212/708-9755. Visit our Web site at www.moma.org.