

THE DRAWING CENTER ANNOUNCES

***Alan Saret:
Gang Drawings***

Main Gallery

November 9, 2007 – February 7, 2008

Opening Reception: Thursday, November 8, 6 – 8 pm

Gallery Talk: Saturday, December 1, 4:00 pm

New York, September 10, 2007 – The Drawing Center is pleased to announce the exhibition *Alan Saret: Gang Drawings*, on view in the Main Gallery from November 9, 2007 through February 7, 2008. *Alan Saret: Gang Drawings*, organized by The Drawing Center, marks the first major museum exhibition of the pioneering artist's work in nearly two decades. Saret is an important figure in the history of Post-Minimal art and was a vital part of the SoHo alternative art scene in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The exhibition will trace the evolution of Saret's process-based experimentation with drawing, including approximately 30 "Gang Drawings," made with fistfuls ("gangs") of colored pencils swept across the page, spanning from the late 1960s to the present. Organized in close collaboration with the artist, *Alan Saret: Gang Drawings* aims to reveal Saret's influence on a generation of postwar American artists and his contributions to the alternative arts movement, and will feature never-before-seen work from Saret's personal archive. This exhibition is curated by João Ribas, Curator, The Drawing Center.



ALAN SARET, *Emergence in Trit-Kol-Naya*, 1987.
Colored pencil on paper.

Saret's drawings, like his sculptures, address the artist's interest in gestural encounters with mutable materials and a commitment to the metaphysical and spiritual dimensions of art, reinforced by his trip to India in the 1970s. The "Gang Drawings," begun in 1967 as preliminary studies for three-dimensional work, combine spontaneous gesture with formal rigor. While regimented by structured repetition, Saret's drawings are composed of improvised marks, combining chance procedures with the delicacy of touch and a transparency of process.

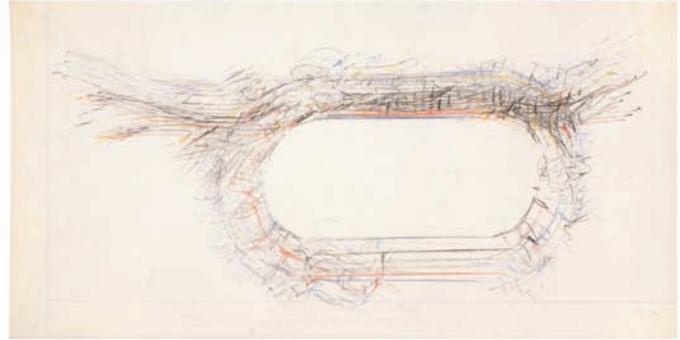
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ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alan Saret was born in New York, NY in 1944 and currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Saret received a Bachelor's degree in architecture from Cornell University in 1966 and subsequently studied with the artist Robert Morris at Hunter College from 1966 until 1968. In the early 1970s, Saret traveled to India, a trip that served to reinforce his spiritual convictions and continues to influence his output to this day. In the mid-1980s, Saret gradually withdrew from the commercial art world

to focus on site-specific and architectural projects. Saret's work has been exhibited at museums throughout the U.S. including the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY; Modern Art Pavilion in Seattle, WA; Fine Arts Gallery, Irvine, CA; and the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, NY. His most recent solo exhibition took place in 1990 at P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center, a MoMA affiliate, in Long Island City, NY. Saret's work is included in numerous public and private collections including The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; The Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI; and the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada.



ALAN SARET, *Half Circles & Sweep Circuit*, 1967. Colored pencil on paper.



ALAN SARET, *Sana Whir Will* (detail), 1983. Colored pencil on paper.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

In conjunction with **> PERFORMA 07**, The Drawing Center announces *Ryan Gander: Loose Associations Lecture (Version 1.1)* on **Tuesday, November 13 at 6:30 pm**. London-based artist Ryan Gander will present a wide-ranging meditation on cultural phenomena combining video, still images, and sound. Admission is \$5/free for members.

The Drawing Center's new series of **Artist Talks** presents outstanding contemporary artists in dialogue with João Ribas, Curator. Join us on **Wednesday, November 28 at 6:30 pm** for a talk with **Ernesto Caivano** and **Wednesday, December 19 at 6:30** with **Michael Smith**. Admission is free.

Family Programs continue on Saturday, November 17 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm with an art-making activity related to *Alan Saret: Gang Drawings*. Designed to engage children accompanied by an adult in hands-on creative exploration, this Saturday's program is **geared toward children ages 9 to 11**. Family Programs are led by museum educator Wan Ling Fahrer. Admission is free.

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On **Saturday, December 1 at 4:00 pm**, **João Ribas**, Curator, The Drawing Center, will lead a tour of the exhibition and a discussion of Saret's contributions to Post-Minimal practice and the alternative arts movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

PUBLICATION

Alan Saret: Gang Drawings will be accompanied by *Drawing Papers 73*, a 16-page edition of The Drawing Center's publication series featuring essays by Klaus Kertess, Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, and Johanna Burton, critic and art historian, and accompanied by images of works in the exhibition.

CREDITS

The Drawing Center's 2007–2008 exhibitions and public programs are made possible, in part, with the generous support of the Carnegie Corporation, Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, and with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State agency.

HOURS & ACCESSIBILITY

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm (closed Sundays and Mondays). Please note that The Drawing Center's offices and galleries will be closed November 22–25, 2007 and December 24, 2007 –January 1, 2008. The Drawing Center is wheelchair accessible.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Drawing Center is the only not-for-profit U.S. museum to focus solely on the exhibition of drawings, both historical and contemporary. It was established in 1977 to provide opportunities for emerging and under-recognized artists; to demonstrate the significance and diversity of drawings throughout history; and to stimulate public dialogue on issues of art and culture.

www.drawingcenter.org

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