

# THE DRAWING CENTER

## Point of Departure: Open Sessions 15

October 11, 2019–November 10, 2019

**For press inquiries and  
images, contact:**

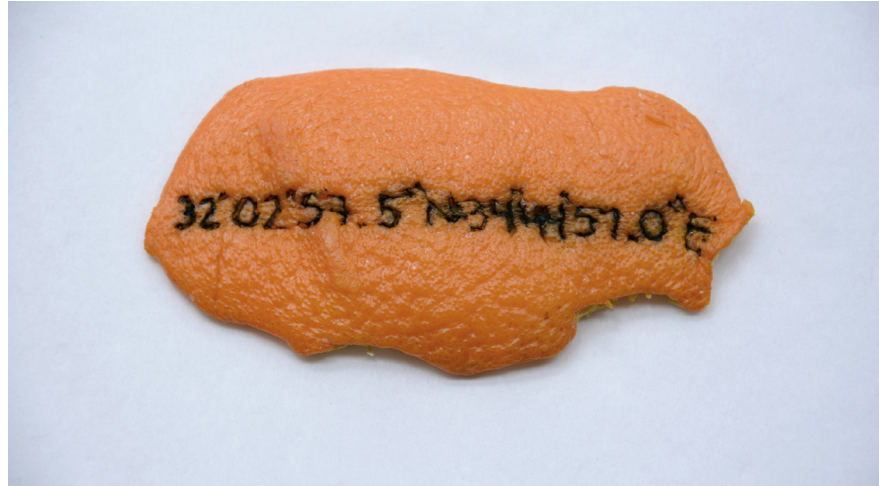
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**The Drawing Center**

35 Wooster Street  
New York, NY 10013  
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Wednesday: 12–6pm  
Thursday: 12–8pm  
Friday–Sunday: 12–6pm

**Free Admission to  
The Drawing Center  
will be offered  
through January 5, 2020**



New York, NY... *Point of Departure* marks the fourth iteration of Open Sessions, a six-part exhibition program presented between October 2018 and January 2020 at The Drawing Center. Organized by curators Rosario Güiraldes and Lisa Sigal, Open Sessions fosters a dynamic, ever-evolving dialogue with new drawing practices and practitioners, exhibiting and contextualizing the work of early career artists who explore the nature of drawing in its many manifestations through conversation, public programs, and thematic group exhibitions.

*Point of Departure* features work—by Bahar Behbahani, Keren Benbenisty, Katarina Burin, Jesse Chun, Carolina Fusilier, and Rachel Granofsky—which draws inspiration from American artist Paul Thek's imaginative and unconventional approach to the medium of drawing. When Thek taught art classes at The Cooper Union in the late 1970s, he gave his students a list of eccentric instructions titled, "Teaching Notes: 4-Dimensional Design." Using Thek's notes as a springboard, the artists in *Point of Departure* created their own set of directives, combining reason, and imagination to reconsider their own artistic processes." The directives' correlating artworks include drawings for the transportation of people, memories, and belongings; renderings of disappeared Palestinian villages from 1948 to the present; as well as personal memories of civic designs in the former Yugoslavia.

### Participating Artists

Bahar Behbahani is an artist based in New York. Her research-based practice, which includes painting, video, installation, and community engagement, weaves layers of archival material and cartographic and horticultural historical documents to produce compositions both political and poetic. Recent exhibitions include the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire; Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center at Rensselaer Polytech, Troy, NY; Thomas Erben Gallery, New York City; The 11th Shanghai Biennale; 7th Moscow Biennale; Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, Athens; The Tribeca Film Festival, NYC; the Asia Art Biennial, Bangladesh; among others. Behbahani is a Creative Capital (2019) Grant Awardee.

Keren Benbenisty is an artist based in New York. Benbenisty's practice examines our relationship to history by revealing both the ancient and modern constructs hidden beneath the surface of contemporary life. Recent exhibitions include A.I.R. Gallery, Brooklyn; Soloway Gallery Brooklyn; Mishkan Ein Harod, Israel; Petach Tikva Museum, Israel; Ulterior Gallery, NY; The James Gallery, CUNY Graduate Center for Humanities, NYC in New York City; Tel-Aviv

Museum of Art; Genia Schreiber University Gallery, Tel Aviv; The Artist House, Jerusalem; Francesca Antonini Gallery, Rome; and Human Resources, Los Angeles.

Katarina Burin is an artist based in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Burin's sculpture, drawing, text, and installation works are informed by the history of architecture, with an emphasis on female architects and historical documentation. Burin's work addresses and undermines misrepresented historical narratives while playing with notions of authorship, authenticity, and collective memory.

Jesse Chun is an artist based in New York. Chun investigates systems of language, through a variety of materials—such as aluminum, graphite, and latex—to render anew various watermarks used for official documents, certificates, and diplomas. Chun has exhibited at the Queens Museum, NYC; BAM, NYC; Bronx Museum of the Arts, NYC; Oakville Galleries, Ontario, Canada; among others. Select commissions and awards include the National Endowment for the Arts fellowship at ISCP (2019); Triple Canopy (2018); BRIC Media Arts Fellowship (2017), and a solo public commission at the Brooklyn Bridge Park (2016).

Carolina Fusilier is an artist based in Mexico City. Fusilier's artwork includes video, painting, sound compositions, and installations. She has recently received The Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant and a grant from the Jumex Foundation in Mexico City. Recent solo exhibitions include Locust Projects, Miami; Natalia Hug Gallery, Cologne, Germany; SOMA, Mexico City; and La Fábrica, Buenos Aires. Recent group exhibitions include the Sculpture Center, NYC; Vacation Gallery, NYC; Biquini Wax, Mexico City; CCU Tlatelolco, Mexico City.

Rachel Granofsky is an artist based in New York. Granofsky's photographs are constructed with paint, fabric, paper, charcoal, and tape applied directly onto the surface of walls, furniture, and household objects to compose an environment that mimics the single point of view of the camera lens. She has recently had a solo exhibition at Rachel Uffner Gallery, NYC and group exhibition in various venues in South Africa, Germany, Sweden, Canada and the United States.

## About Open Sessions

Open Sessions builds on The Drawing Center's longstanding legacy of championing work by early career artists who explore the nature of drawing in its many manifestations. Organized by curators Rosario Güiraldes and Lisa Sigal, Open Sessions is a two-year program created as a platform for artists to find new approaches for contextualizing and exhibiting their work, through conversation, public programs, and thematic group exhibitions.

Artists selected for Open Sessions 2018-20 include: Joeun Aatchim, Kenseth Armstead, Bahar Behbahani, Keren Benenisty, Katarina Burin, Esteban Cabeza de Baca, Alex Callender, Crystal Z Campbell, Ludovica Carbotta, Jesse Chun, Liz Collins, Mike Crane, Dennis RedMoon Darkeem, Theodore Darst, Billy and Steven Dufala, Jonathan Ehrenberg, Carolina Fusilier, Rachel Granofsky, LaMont Hamilton, Kunlin He, Victoria Keddle, Young Joo Lee, Lux Lindner, Sharon Madanes, Guadalupe Maravilla, Zatar McIntyre, Ester Partegàs, Omid Shekari, Tariku Shiferaw, Johanna Unzueta, Cosmo Whyte.

## Credits

Open Sessions is made possible by the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, the Helen Frankenthaler Foundation, the Further Forward Foundation, and, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

## About The Drawing Center

Founded in 1977 by curator Martha Beck (1938–2014), The Drawing Center is a museum in Manhattan's SoHo district that explores the medium of drawing as primary, dynamic, and relevant to contemporary culture, the future of art, and creative thought. Its activities are both multidisciplinary and broadly historical, and include exhibitions, public programs, publications, and a unique artist-run exhibition program aimed at the contemporary artists' community.