

*Open Sessions 2018–2020:
What's Love Got to Do with It?*

August 16–September 15, 2019

Main Gallery, Drawing Room, The Lab
Opening Reception: August 15, 6–8pm

For further information and images, please contact
Kara Nandin, *Bookstore Manager/Special Programs Coordinator*, The Drawing Center
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“As a society we are embarrassed by love. We treat it as if it were an obscenity. We reluctantly admit to it. Even saying the word makes us stumble and blush... Love is the most important thing in our lives, a passion for which we would fight or die, and yet we're reluctant to linger over its names. Without a supple vocabulary, we can't even talk or think about it directly.”

– Diane Ackerman, via bell hooks, *All About Love: New Visions*.

New York – *Open Sessions 2018–2020: What's Love Got to Do with It?* is an exhibition about love. About the banality of love, but also about its radicality, the labor of love, and about working in the name of love under increasingly precarious conditions of work. At once a universal discourse, a recurring subject of inquiry, and a persisting theme of art—from Archaic Greek poet Sappho, to twentieth century Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw, to French philosopher and critic Roland Barthes, to American cultural critic bell hooks—love is as democratic as drawing. *What's Love Got to Do with It?* is the full-museum exhibition of the third cycle of the Open Sessions program. The exhibition includes new artwork produced by all 31 participating artists, presenting diverse and radical approaches to the medium of drawing. Featuring works on paper, video, sculpture, as well as installation and mixed-media works, the exhibition will place contemporary drawing at the center of an evolving conversation about love. Organized by Rosario Güiraldes and Lisa Sigal, Open Sessions Curators.



Kunlin He, *Marshland Restoration #2*, 2019. Acrylic and ink drawing on mulsin, mylar, and acrylic sheet, 40 x 30 inches.

From October 2018 through January 2020, Open Sessions presents six exhibitions organized by Rosario Güiraldes and Lisa Sigal, Open Sessions Curators, together with participating artists. Conceived and organized over fourteen months, The Lab exhibitions present experimental work and ideas, and take the form of thematic group shows. In the second year of the cycle, Open Sessions curators organize a full-museum exhibition to which all Open Sessions artists contribute work that best manifests and/or expands what drawing is.

Open Sessions artists participating in *Open Sessions 2018–2020: What's Love Got to Do with It?* Joeun Kim Aarchim, Kenseth Armstead, Bahar Behbahani, Keren Benbenisty, 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, Joanthan Ehrenberg, Carolina Fusilier, Rachel Granofsky, LaMont Hamilton, Kunlin He, Victoria

Keddie, Young Joo Lee, Lux Linder, Sharon Madanes, Guadalupe Maravilla, Zatará McIntyre, Ester Partegàs, Omid Shekari, Tariku Shiferaw, Johanna Unzueta, Cosmo Whyte

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Monday, August 19, 6:30 to 8pm, FREE

Watch a curated screening of videos selected by Open Sessions artists Theodore Darst, Jonathan Ehrenberg, and Young Joo Lee that reflect on the strange but familiar world of our digital lives, fantasy, and dreams. With videos by Jacob Ciocci and Shana Moulton, Theodore Darst, Jonathan Ehrenberg, Ji Hyun Ha, Meredith James, Young Joo Lee, Tala Madani, Nathaniel Mellors and Erkka Nissinen, Phil Morton, and Eva Papamargariti.

Thursday, September 12, 6:30 to 8pm, FREE

Join Open Sessions artist Joeun Kim Aatchim for a workshop and collective drawing session in which participants will respond to each other's work through spontaneous drawing exchange as part of her ongoing project Café Anxiety Drawing Club International.

OPEN SESSIONS

Open Sessions is an artist program organized by Rosario Güiraldes and Lisa Sigal, Open Sessions Curators. The two-year program provides opportunities for selected artists to find new approaches for contextualizing and exhibiting their work through conversation, public programs, and exhibitions. Drawing may or may not be the primary means of art-making for Open Sessions artists. Open Sessions fosters a dynamic, ever-evolving dialogue with new drawing practices and practitioners, viewing drawing as an activity rather than a product.

CREDITS

Open Sessions is made possible by the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Helen Frankenthaler Foundation, the Evelyn Toll Family 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

The Drawing Center, a museum in Manhattan's SoHo district, explores the medium of drawing as primary, dynamic, and relevant to contemporary culture, the future of art, and creative thought. Its activities, which are both multidisciplinary and broadly historical, include exhibitions; Open Sessions, a curated artist program encouraging community and collaboration; the Drawing Papers publication series; and education and public programs.

LOCATION, HOURS & ACCESSIBILITY

35 Wooster Street between Broome and Grand Streets in SoHo, New York.
Gallery hours are Wednesday-Sunday 12pm–6pm, Thursday, 12pm–8pm.
Tickets: \$5 Adults, \$3 Students and seniors, Children under 12 are free, and free admission Thursdays 6-8pm.

The Drawing Center is wheelchair accessible.

212.219.2166 | info@drawingcenter.org | drawingcenter.org

FACEBOOK: [The Drawing Center](https://www.facebook.com/TheDrawingCenter)

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INSTAGRAM: [instagram.com/drawingcenter](https://www.instagram.com/drawingcenter)

AT THE DRAWING CENTER

Inka Essenhigh: Manhattenhenge

Open Sessions 2018–2020: What’s Love Got to Do with It?

The Pencil is a Key: Drawings by Incarcerated Artists

Open Sessions 15

Open Sessions 16

Edie Fake: Labyrinth

Through September 15, 2019

August 16 – September 15, 2019

October 11 – January 5, 2020

October 11 – November 10, 2019

November 15 – January 5, 2020

October 11 – September 13, 2020

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Images Available for Reproduction

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Jo Eun Kim Aatchim
New Song, 2019
Mineral pigment on
silk

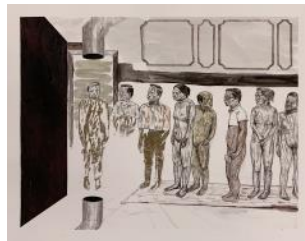
11 x 14 inches



Katarina Burin
Planter for Creeping Time, July or August, probably 1978, 2019
Cement, Thyme plants, plexiglass, masonite, 2 minutes, 54 seconds
digital image
23 x 17 1/2 x 11 13/16 inches



Theodore Darst
Blind in The-Garden, 2019
HD Video



Omid Shekari
'This Administration is dominated and directed by wealth and for the accumulation of wealth. It runs smoothly like a well-organized industry. Corporate wealth profits as never before in history. We turn over the national resources to private profit and have few funds left for education, health or housing.'—W.E.B Du Bois, 1956, 2019

Ink, gouache and powdered bullet shells
on paper
17 x 13 inches



Young Joo Lee
Black Snow, 2019
Digital animation
10 minutes 33 seconds



Johanna Unzueta
Two Of Us I, 2019
Wood, indigo dye, pastel
pencil, gold watercolor,
industrial wheels, nails and
linen thread
36 x 52 x 19 inches