

Hipkiss: Bulwark
April 6–August 12, 2018

Drawing Room
Opening Reception, April 5, 6–8pm

For further information and images, please contact
Molly Gross, *Communications Director*, The Drawing Center
212 219 2166 x119 | mgross@drawingcenter.org

February 6, 2018



Hipkiss, Detail of *Bulwark*
#11 from *The Towers*, 2017.
Graphite, silver ink, silver
tape, and metal leaf on
Fabriano 4 paper, 89 x 16
inches. Courtesy of the artists.

New York – The Drawing Center will present *Hipkiss: Bulwark*, the first museum exhibition dedicated to the Anglo-French artists Alpha and Chris Mason, who began collaborating in 1983 and now work under the pseudonym Hipkiss. For the past three decades, with Alpha overseeing the narrative development of each work and Chris acting as draftsman, the duo has become well-known for their meticulously-detailed panoramic landscapes that interweave dystopian narratives with a lexicon of symbolic forms. For *Hipkiss: Bulwark*, the artists will show thirteen large-scale drawings from their recent series *The Towers* (2015–18). While each drawing resembles an imposing, multi-level skyscraper from afar, close inspection unearths rich detail: botanical and insect worlds, intricate manmade armatures, and cryptic texts. Each work references the myriad allegorical significations of the tower symbol—irrational ambition, transcendence, and piety—while pointing to the primal discord between manmade and natural environments. Organized by Brett Littman, Executive Director.

ABOUT HIPKISS

Alpha Mason (b. 1964, Widnes, UK) and Chris Mason (b. 1964, London)—known collectively as Hipkiss—met in 1983 and now live and work together in southern France. Recent solo exhibitions of Hipkiss’s work have been mounted by the Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art, Chicago, and the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Hipkiss has also been included in recent group exhibitions in Paris at Fondation Mindscape and Halle Saint Pierre as well as in New York at David Zwirner Gallery and the New Museum of Contemporary Art. Work by Hipkiss has likewise been shown in group exhibitions at Tate Britain, London; Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; Whitechapel Gallery, London; and KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin. Hipkiss’s work can be found in the collections of the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam; FRAC Picardie, Amiens, France; and the American Folk Art Museum, New York, among others.

PUBLICATION

To accompany *Hipkiss: Bulwark*, The Drawing Center will produce an edition in the *Drawing Papers* series, which will include full-color illustrations as well as details and preparatory sketches for each work in the exhibition in addition to a personal essay by Hipkiss and a curatorial introduction by Brett Littman, Executive Director of The Drawing Center.

CREDITS

Hipkiss: Bulwark is made possible by Fiona and Eric Rudin.

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: /TheDrawingCenter

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AT THE DRAWING CENTER

<i>Winter Term: Torkwase Dyson and the Wynter-Wells</i>	February 24–March 11, 2018
<i>Drawing School for Environmental Justice</i>	
<i>Terry Winters: Facts and Fictions</i>	April 6–August 12, 2018
<i>Hipkiss: Bulwark</i>	April 6–August 12, 2018
<i>Eduardo Navarro: Into Ourselves</i>	April 6–22, 2018

INSTALLATIONS

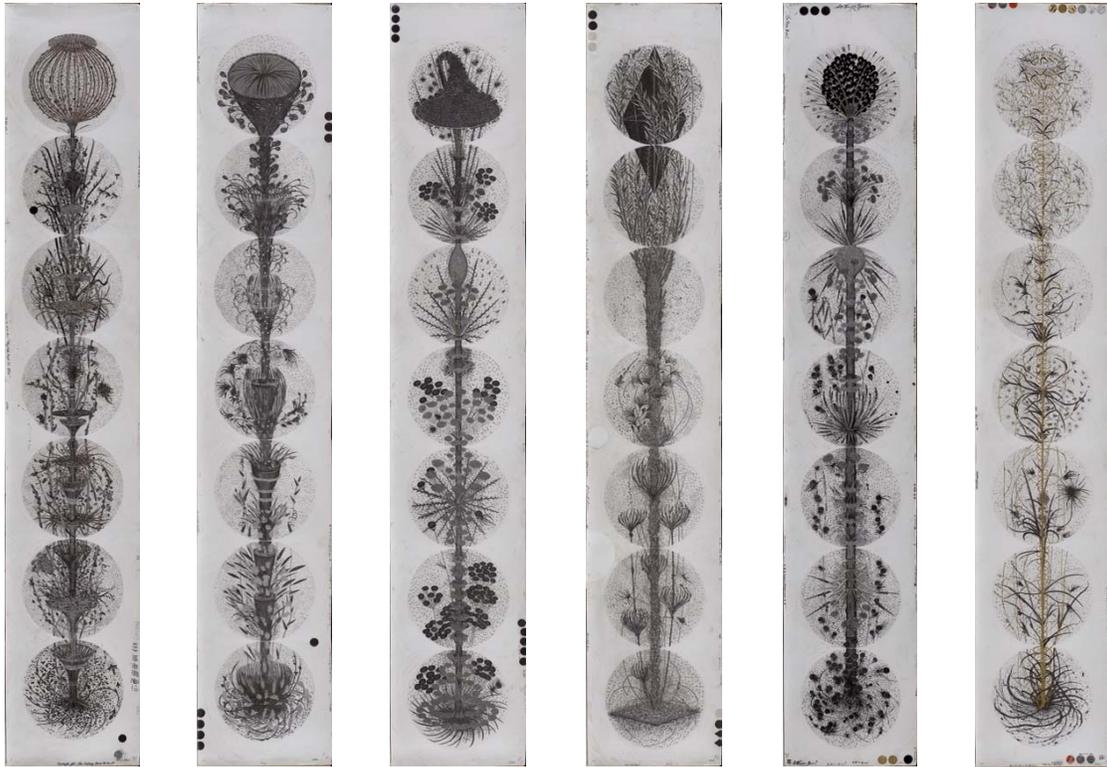
<i>Susan York: Foundation</i> in the Lab Corridor	Through October 2018
<i>Inka Essenhigh: Manhattanhenge</i> in the Stairwell	Opens April 6, 2018

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Images Available for Reproduction

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Hipkiss, from left: *Bulwark* #2, #3, #6, #8, #9, and #11 from *The Towers*, 2017. Graphite, silver ink, silver tape, and metal leaf on Fabriano 4 paper, 89 x 16 inches, each. Courtesy of the artists.