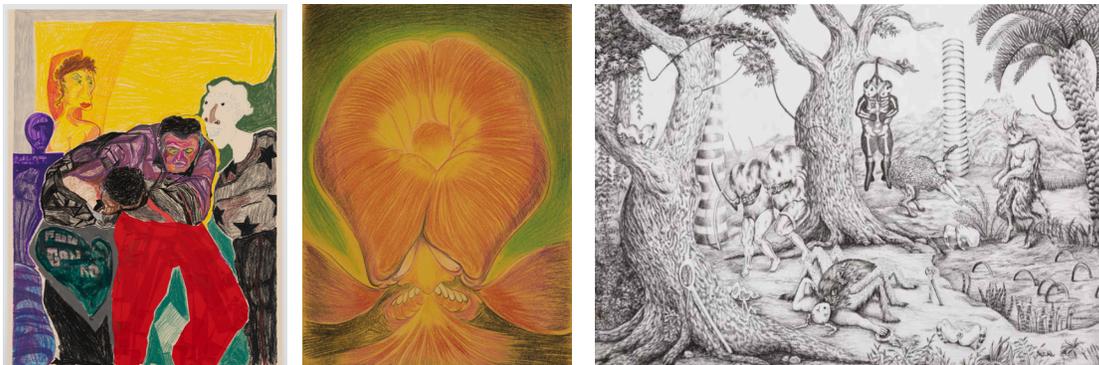


Drawing in the Continuous Present

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New York, NY... Comprising nearly a hundred works on paper by thirteen artists from ten different countries, *Drawing in the Continuous Present* explores how a new generation of artists is placing drawing at the center of contemporary art discourse. The exhibition brings together works on paper by some of today's most significant artistic voices, including Michael Armitage, Javier Barrios, Jesse Darling, Maren Karlson, Christine Sun Kim, Helen Marten, Jean Katambayi Mukendi, Julien Nguyen, Sanou Oumar, Walter Price, Florencia Rodríguez Giles, Johanna Unzueta, and He Xiangyu.

The title of the exhibition, *Drawing in the Continuous Present*, is borrowed from a 2017 talk given by artist Amy Sillman in which she speaks, via Gertrude Stein, of drawing's "continuously present" temporality. The notion of the "continuous present" pertains to the ways in which the featured artists employ drawing's immediacy to mediate their relationships with the world around them. Guided by The Drawing Center's long-standing support of contemporary drawing practices and practitioners, *Drawing in the Continuous Present* highlights drawing as a major form of expression for this group of artists, whose works reflect a myriad of experiences and methods. To demonstrate drawing's possibilities, the exhibition's five thematic sections highlight different ways that the artists utilize the medium: imagining; spiritualizing; translating; fantasizing; altering language.

With its wide-ranging scope, the exhibition underscores drawing as expansive and open-ended, and provides insight into how and why artists from different backgrounds and with different aims have given the practice primary importance in the past two years, the period during which the majority of the works in the exhibition have been made. As society and culture have shifted to confront the devastation wrought by the pandemic and ongoing social and economic inequities, many artists have returned to drawing's rawness and physicality. Though *Drawing in the Continuous Present* does not explicitly address these global issues, the works and the context in which they have been made are inseparable. This exhibition marks a moment when the direct experience of drawing makes it a timely tool to navigate our continuously present reality.

Drawing in the Continuous Present is organized by Rosario Güiraldes, Associate Curator.

Artists' Biographies

Michael Armitage (b. 1984, Nairobi, Kenya) lives and works in Nairobi and London. He received his BA in Fine Art from the Slade School of Fine Art, London (2007) and has a Postgraduate Diploma from the Royal Academy Schools, London (2010). Selected solo exhibitions include: Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek, Copenhagen (2021); Royal Academy, London (2021); Haus der Kunst, Munich (2020); Norval Foundation, Cape Town (2020); Projects 110, Studio Museum in collaboration with MoMA, New York City (2019); Museum of Contemporary Art Sydney (2019); Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin (2019); South London Gallery, UK (2017); Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, San Francisco (2016); and Royal Academy Schools Studios, London (2010). Selected

group exhibitions include *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London (2021); British Art Show 9, Aberdeen Art Gallery (2021); Pallant House Gallery, Chichester (2021); Drawing Room, London (2021); The Warehouse, Dallas (2020); Whitechapel Gallery, London (2020); 58th Venice Biennale (2019); Nasher Museum of Art, Durham (2018); Prospect.4, New Orleans (2017); Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh (2017); HOME, Manchester (2016); Yuan Art Museum, Beijing (2015); 13th Biennale de Lyon (2015); Palazzo Capris, Turin (2015); South London Gallery (2014); and Drawing Room, London (2013).

Javier Barrios (b. 1989, Guadalajara, Mexico) lives and works in Mexico City. His solo exhibitions have appeared at the Art and Culture Center, Hollywood (2021); LADRÓN galería, Mexico City (2017); Páramo, Guadalajara (2017); and Fundación Calosa, Mexico City (2017). His work has also been included in group exhibitions at Fundación Casa Wabi, Oaxaca (2021); N.A.S.A.L., Mexico City (2021); Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City (2020); Aoyama Meguro, Tokyo (2020); and Salón Silicón, Mexico City (2019), among others.

Jesse Darling (b. 1981, Oxford, United Kingdom) attended Central St. Martins College of Art and Design and Slade School of Fine Art. Recent solo exhibitions include *Gravity Road*, Kunstverein Freiburg (2020); *Crevé, La Friche la Belle de Mai*, Marseille (2019); and *The Ballad of Saint Jerome*, Art Now at Tate Britain, London (2018). Darling's works have featured in numerous group exhibitions such as *Crip Time*, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt (2021); *100 Drawings from Now*, The Drawing Center, New York City (2020); *Transcorporealities*, Museum Ludwig, Cologne (2019); *May You Live In Interesting Times*, 58th Venice Biennale (2019); *Give Up the Ghost*, Baltic Triennial 13, Tallinn (2018); *Occasional Geometries*, Yorkshire Sculpture Park (2017); and *Bread and Roses*, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw (2016). Darling has authored texts for publications including *Art After the Internet* (Cornerhouse Books, 2014); *Mass Effect: Art and the Internet in the 21st Century* (MIT Press, 2015); *Documents of Contemporary Art: Translation* (Whitechapel Press, 2020); as well as written for *Frieze*, *Artforum*, *Granta*, and *The New Inquiry*. His chapbook *VIRGINS* was published by Monitor Books in 2022.

Maren Karlson (b. 1988, Rostock, Germany) lives and works in Berlin. She has had solo exhibitions at Ashley, Berlin (2021); in lieu, Los Angeles (2020); and Interstate Projects, Brooklyn (2017). Karlson's work has been shown in numerous group exhibitions, including *Hissing Haze*, in lieu, Los Angeles (2020); *Counsel*, Springsteen, Baltimore (2020); *HU*, Real Pain Fine Arts, Los Angeles (2020); *Perhaps a Window?*, stadium, Berlin (2020); and *Fantasia*, Steve Turner, Los Angeles (2019).

Christine Sun Kim (b. 1980, Orange County, California) lives and works in Berlin. She has exhibited and performed internationally, including at the Whitney Museum, New York City (2018); Art Institute of Chicago (2018); San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (2017); De Appel, Amsterdam (2017); Rubin Museum of Art, New York City (2017); 9th Berlin Biennale (2016); 11th Shanghai Biennale (2016); SoundLive Tokyo (2015, 2013); MoMA PS1, Long Island City (2015) and the Museum of Modern Art, New York City (2013), among others. Her work is held in numerous public collections, including LACMA, Los Angeles; Museum of Modern Art, New York City; Tate, London; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and the Smithsonian Museum of American Art, Washington, D.C.. Kim is the recipient of a MIT Media Lab Fellowship, a TED Senior Fellowship, and has presented at numerous conferences and symposia.

Helen Marten (b. 1985, Macclesfield, UK) lives and works in London. In 2016, she was the recipient of the Turner Prize and the inaugural Hepworth Prize for Sculpture. Recent solo exhibitions include those at Greene Naftali, New York City (2021, 2016); Serpentine Gallery, London (2016); Fridericianum, Kassel (2014); Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-on-Hudson (2013); Kunsthalle Zürich (2012); and Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2012). Her work is in the collections of the Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Julia Stoschek Collection, Düsseldorf; The Museum of Modern Art, New York City; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York City; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; and Tate, London, among others.

Jean Katambayi Mukendi (b. 1974, Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of the Congo) had his first solo exhibition in the United States in 2020: *Quarantaine* at Ramiken in New York City. Other solo exhibitions of Mukendi's work have been held at Intemporal, Antwerp (2017); Stroom

Den Haag, The Hague (2017); and trampoline, Antwerp (2016). His work has been shown in group exhibitions at Centre Pompidou-Metz (2021); Museum für Völkerkunde, Hamburg (2018); M HKA, Antwerp (2017); Palazzo Reale, Milan (2016); WIELS, Brussels (2016); and the Royal Museum of Fine Arts of Belgium, Brussels (2015). Mukendi has exhibited in the Biennale de Lubumbashi since 2008 and serves as the Biennale's technical director.

Julien Nguyen (b. 1990, Washington D.C.) lives and works in Los Angeles. His work was included in the 2017 Whitney Biennial and has been the subject of one-person exhibitions including *Pictures of the Floating World*, Matthew Marks Gallery, New York City (2021); *Returns*, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati (2019); and *Evil in the Defense of the Good*, Swiss Institute, New York City (2018).

Sanou Oumar (b. 1986, Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso) lives in the Bronx and works in Harlem in New York City. He graduated from the University of Ouagadougou in 2007 with a major in English literature. In 2015, Oumar moved to the United States to seek asylum. His work has been presented in solo exhibitions at Gordon Robichaux, New York City (2021) and Herald St, London (2021, 2019) and in numerous group shows, including a two-person exhibition with Elisabeth Kley at South Willard, Los Angeles (2019); at the Minneapolis Institute of Art (2019), where his work is also held in the permanent collection; Karma, New York City (2020); Parker Gallery, Los Angeles (2020); Maroncelli 12, Milan (2019); Joost van den Bergh, London (2018); and Mormor Studio, New York City (2016). His art has been celebrated by *The New Yorker* on two occasions, *The New York Times*, and *Artforum*, and a book of Oumar's drawings published by Pre-Echo Press was released in December 2018 at Karma Bookstore in New York City. Most recently, his work was included in *Vitamin D3: Today's Best in Contemporary Drawing* (Phaidon, 2021).

Walter Price (b. 1989, Macon, Georgia) lives and works in New York City. Price served in the U.S. Navy en route to art school. Recent solo exhibitions include those at Camden Art Centre, London (2021); The Modern Institute, Glasgow (2020); Greene Naftali, New York City (2020); Aspen Art Museum (2019); Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne (2018); The Modern Institute, Glasgow (2018); and MoMA PS1, Long Island City (2018). Significant group exhibitions include those at the Whitney Biennial, New York City (2019); The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York City (2017); and LUMA Foundation, Zürich (2017). His work is in the collections of the Aïshti Foundation, Lebanon; Astrup Fearnley Museum, Oslo; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-on-Hudson; The Museum of Modern Art, New York City; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City, among others.

Florencia Rodríguez Giles (b. 1978, Buenos Aires, Argentina) lives and works in Buenos Aires. She studied at Escuela nacional de Bellas Artes Prilidiano Pueyrredón and continued her training under the mentorship of artists Nicola Costantino, Diana Aisenberg, and Guillermo Kuitca through the Kuitca-Di Tella Scholarship. Her work has been shown in solo and group exhibitions internationally, including at the 11th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art hosted by KW Institute for Contemporary Art (2020); Bendana | Pinel Art Contemporain, Paris (2020); Bienal de Performance, Buenos Aires (2019); Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (2018); Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo (2018); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2016); Arcus Studio, Ibaraki (2015); and Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires (2013; 2022).

Johanna Unzueta (b. 1974, Santiago, Chile) lives and works in New York City and Berlin. Unzueta studied art at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and has exhibited extensively throughout Europe, North, and South America. In 2020 she had a major solo exhibition, *Tools for Life*, at the Modern Art Oxford, and in 2019, *Field Station: Johanna Unzueta, From My Head to My Toes, to My Teeth to My Nose* was presented by MSU Broad, Michigan. Unzueta was recently featured in the group exhibitions *O rio e uma Serpiente*, 3rd Frestas Art Triennial, São Paulo (2020); *Searching the Sky for Rain*, Sculpture Center, Long Island City (2019); *What's Love Got to Do With It?* as part of the 2018-20 Open Sessions program at The Drawing Center, New York City (2019); and was included in *We Do Not Need Another Hero* for the 10th Berlin Biennale (2018). Other solo exhibitions have been shown at Sala de Arte Público Siqueiros, Mexico City (2017); Jewett Art Gallery, Wellesley College, Massachusetts (2017); and Queens Museum of Art, Flushing (2009). Residencies include Launch Pad LaB, La Boissière, France (2019); La Tallera, Sala de Arte Publico Siqueiros in Cuernavaca, Mexico (2015); DIVA, Danish Arts Council

Committee for International Visual Arts (2012); and Capacete, Rio de Janeiro (2007). In 2021, Unzueta received the support of Akanemie der Künste, Berlin, with funding from the Federal Government's Commissioner for Culture and Media as part of the NEUSTART KULTUR program.

He Xiangyu (b. 1986, Kuandian County, China) lives and works in Beijing and Berlin. His recent solo exhibitions include *Soft Dilemma*, Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York City (2021); *Hard Palate*, WHITE SPACE BEIJING (2020); *Who Are Interested in Us*, SCAI The Bathhouse, Tokyo (2019); *Evidence*, White Cube, London, (2018); and *New Directions: He Xiangyu*, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing (2015).

Credits

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