



INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
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NEWS RELEASE



JOHN ARMLEDER, ABOUT NOTHING. WORKS ON PAPER 1962-2007

SEPTEMBER 9-DECEMBER 17, 2006

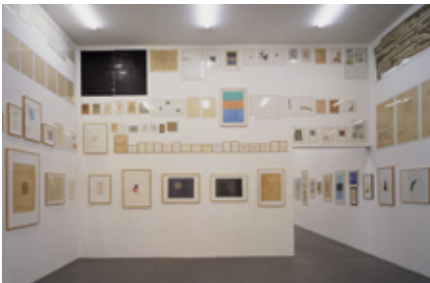
EXHIBITION WALKTHROUGH WITH JOHN ARMLEDER AND CLAUDIA GOULD, ICA DIRECTOR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 5-6PM, ICA MEMBERS ONLY

OPENING RECEPTION: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 6-8PM

PHILADELPHIA, PA

The Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) is pleased to present "John Armleder, About Nothing. Works on Paper 1962-2007" a survey of 45 years of work by Swiss artist John Armleder in ICA's Eleanor Biddle Lloyd Gallery. This exhibition will be on view from September 9-December 17, 2006.



An installation of nearly 500 drawings—hung wall-to-wall and floor-to-ceiling—this exhibition presents an expansive and experimental view of drawing itself. Selected from private collections and from the artist's studio are works in pen and ink, watercolor, gouache, acrylic, oil, and collage on paper, as well as original books and a special edition of wallpaper created especially for the exhibition. Installed by the artist at ICA, this exhibition exists as a work in its own right—temporary and site specific.

top: John Armleder, *Untitled*, 1983, Mixed media on paper, 33 x 24 inches. Courtesy Art & Public, Cabinet, PH, Pierre Huber, Geneva

bottom: "John M Armleder, About Nothing. Works on Paper 1964-2004", Kunsthalle Zürich, November 13, 2004 – January 9, 2005, Installation view. Photo: A. Burger

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John Armleder (b. 1948, Geneva, Switzerland, lives Geneva) is a performance artist, sculptor, and painter, whose multi-faceted activities are connected by drawing. Affiliated with Fluxus in the late 1960s and 70s, the value of ephemerality and notion that art is the conduction of creative energy are imperative to his work. During the 1980s, his "furniture sculpture" was highly visible within the context of "New Geometry" or "Neo Geo." John Armleder is widely known and respected as the co-founder of the Group Ecart, which has been endorsing the work of artists (Christian Marclay and Karen Kilminik among them) since the 1970s through its publications, exhibitions and representation at art fairs.

This is the first major exhibition of John Armleder's work in the United States. A highly influential, established figure within the international community, Armleder's work has been exhibited extensively throughout Europe. Although he is partially based in New York, his art and reputation are under-recognized in America.

This exhibition is organized in collaboration with the Kunsthalle Zürich, which presented a survey of the artist's drawings in fall 2004. The installation has been modified by Kunsthalle curator Beatrix Ruf in association with the artist and ICA Director Claudia Gould for its presentation at ICA. The exhibition will be accompanied by an English edition of the Kunsthalle Zürich catalog with essays by John Armleder, Parker Williams, Beatrix Ruf, Christoph Cherix and acknowledgements by Claudia Gould [\$10].

*Images available upon request

GENERAL INFORMATION

ICA is located at:

118 South 36th Street at the University of Pennsylvania.

ICA is open to the public, except during installation, from 12:00pm to 8:00pm on Wednesday through Friday and from 11:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Admission is \$6 for adults; \$3 for students over 12, artists, and senior citizens; and free to ICA members, children 12 and under, PENN card holders, and on Sundays from 11:00am to 1:00pm.

For more information, call 215-898-7108/5911, or visit www.icaphila.org.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Founded in 1963, the Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania is a leader in the presentation and documentation of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, commissions, educational programs, and publications, ICA invites the public to share in the experience, interpretation and understanding of the work of established and emerging artists.

ICA ACKNOWLEDGES THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF MARTIN R. LAUTMAN AS SPONSOR OF THIS EXHIBITION. WE ARE ALSO GRATEFUL FOR FUNDING FROM : PRO HELVETIA, ARTS COUNCIL OF SWITZERLAND; GALLERIA MASSIMO DE CARLO; GALERIE ANDREA CARATSCH ; DONALD TAGLIALATELLA AND WORLD HOUSE EDITIONS, MIDDLEBURY, CONNECTICUT; AND EDITION COPENHAGEN, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK; MEHDI CHOUAKRI AND VERO MUNRO. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE HORACE W. GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION, THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, THE DIETRICH FOUNDATION INC., THE OVERSEERS BOARD FOR THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF ICA, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA. ICA IS GRATEFUL FOR IN-KIND PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT FROM THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND, NEW YORK, THE HONORARY CONSUL OF SWITZERLAND, PHILADELPHIA, AND SWISS ROOTS. WE ARE ALSO GRATEFUL FOR THE IN-KIND SUPPORT OF LOEWS PHILADELPHIA HOTEL. (INFORMATION COMPLETE AS OF 7/ 21/06.)

ALL PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE VISIT THE ICA WEBSITE, WWW.ICAPHILA.ORG, FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS IN CONJUNCTION WITH "JOHN ARMLEDER, ABOUT NOTHING. WORKS ON PAPER 1962-2007."