The Drawing Center announces Artist Honorees for the Museum’s 40th anniversary gala and the appointment of four new Trustees to the Board

Artist Honorees: Marcel Dzama, Teresita Fernández, Rashid Johnson, R.H. Quaytman

New Board Members: Andrea Crane, Amy Gold, David Salle, Waqas Wajahat

Gala Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2017

For further information and images, please contact

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New York – As part of the museum’s 40th anniversary celebrations, The Drawing Center is delighted to announce the artist honorees for its 2017 Gala – taking place on April 25, 2017 – as well as the addition of four new members to the museum’s Board of Directors. Since its founding in 1977, The Drawing Center has been championing the medium of drawing, presenting thoughtfully curated exhibitions that highlight the multidisciplinary nature of the medium and offering artists a critical platform to expand their practice. In recent years, the institution has expanded its ethos, exploring drawing as an integral component of human creativity that raises fundamental questions about contemporary society.

Executive Director Brett Littman explains, “The Drawing Center has always been ahead of its time, even from the very beginning. Our founder Martha Beck truly understood the importance of drawing—both as a critical element of the creative process and as an artistic product in its own right—and sought to break down the wall between curators and artists in order to create a collaborative and open space. We are delighted to be celebrating the museum’s 40th birthday by
honoring artists who have left an indelible mark on our history, and also welcoming a selection of new board members who we know will be extremely hands-on in supporting our programming and lending new perspectives to the future of the institution.”

**2017 Gala**

Artists have always been at the core of The Drawing Center’s mission. The institution was the first to show the drawings of several artists in the US – including Cecily Brown, Tacita Dean, Leon Golub, William Kentridge, Gerhard Richter, Kara Walker, and Terry Winters, who had her first museum show at The Drawing Center in 1994 – and has actively commissioned new projects since its founding. In keeping with its artist-centric vision, The Drawing Center will honor four artists at its 2017 Gala who each represent a decade in the museum’s incredible 40-year history of game-changing exhibitions: **R.H. Quaytman** (the Viewing Program’s Selections 41 in 1988), **Teresita Fernández** (Selections in 1995), **Marcel Dzama** (*The Royal Art Lodge: Ask The Dust* in 2003), and **Rashid Johnson** (*Rashid Johnson: Anxious Men* in 2015). Further information on The Drawing Center’s 2017 Gala will be announced in the coming weeks. For tickets to the Gala, please visit drawingcenter.org here.

**New Board Members**

The new trustees each bring with them years of experience and are welcomed additions to the board as the museum enters its fourth decade. The new members of the board include:

- **Andrea Crane**, private dealer specializing in Impressionist, Modern, and Contemporary Art and previously Director of Gagosian Gallery in New York;
- **Amy Gold**, Founder Amy L. Gold Fine Arts – a private dealership specializing in twentieth century masterworks – and previously Deputy Chairman of Christie’s Americas;
- **David Salle**, an internationally acclaimed artist whose work has been shown in exhibitions worldwide, including at the Whitney Museum of American Art, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (MOCA); The Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam; the Menil Collection, Houston; and the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao; and
- **Waqas Wajahat**, an artist liaison specializing in strategic planning with artists and artists’ estates for the placement of works and exhibition programming.

For the complete list of The Drawing Center’s Board of Directors, please see here.
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.
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