

The Drawing Center Appoints Laura Hoptman New Executive Director

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Laura Hoptman. Photo by
M. Seck.

New York – The Drawing Center is pleased to announce the appointment of Laura Hoptman as Executive Director effective September 10, 2018.

Hoptman has been a curator of contemporary art and a leading participant in the international art conversation for three decades. She comes to The Drawing Center after eight years as a curator in the Department of Painting and Sculpture at the Museum of Modern Art, an institution where she also began her career in the 1990s as a curator with a specialty in drawing. Among the dozens of exhibitions that Hoptman has curated are *Drawing Now: Eight Propositions*, a landmark exhibition of contemporary figurative drawing at MoMA; retrospectives of the work of Yayoi Kusama, Isa Genzken, Henry Taylor, Bruce Conner, and Elizabeth Peyton, and the 54th Carnegie International at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh.

The Drawing Center Co-chairs Andrea Crane and Amy Gold announce that, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, “We are thrilled to welcome Laura Hoptman to The Drawing Center. Her unparalleled expertise and international experience will add extraordinary new vision and leadership to our venerable New York institution.”

Says Hoptman: “The Drawing Center has been an inspiration to me for my entire career in the arts—one that has taken me from local non-profits to MoMA. In its forty years of scholarship and programming, The Drawing Center has consistently provided new ways to look at drawing that prove the medium’s relevance to our understanding of how art intersects with who we are and how we live.”

“At this moment in its history,” she continues, “The Drawing Center is uniquely positioned to enhance its leadership role as a result of its unique strengths. In this time of cultural gigantism—museum expansions and building programs; the enlargement and franchising of commercial galleries—it makes sense to turn to modestly-scaled, issue oriented spaces to move the discussion forward. Smaller, more focused institutions are freer to introduce unfamiliar, speculative, or challenging material, to drill down on specific mediums or ideas, and to create diverse programming that is relevant, even urgent to a larger cultural conversation. Among my goals for the future of The Drawing Center is to diversify and expand our audience so that a larger community can participate in these deeper cultural discussions through the lens of drawing, which is perhaps the most inclusive artistic language of them all.”

Founded in 1977, by Martha Beck, (1938–2014), a curator of drawing at the Museum of Modern Art, and located in the heart of downtown Manhattan, The Drawing Center is a museum dedicated to 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, lectures and public programs, artists' programs, the *Drawing Papers* publication series, and educational events for students, professionals, artists and the artistically curious.

A small institution with a history of organizing exhibitions that have impact internationally, over the past forty years The Drawing Center has presented more than 300 exhibitions, many of which have toured internationally, and published over 150 catalogs, monographs, and journals.

Ms. Hoptman will be the fifth Executive Director of The Drawing Center since its founding, succeeding Brett Littman who has led the organization since 2007.

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
TWITTER: @drawingcenter
INSTAGRAM: @drawingcenter

AT THE DRAWING CENTER

<i>Terry Winters: Facts and Fictions</i>	Through August 12, 2018
<i>Hipkiss: Bulwark</i>	Through August 12, 2018
<i>Ellen Berkenblit: Lines Roar</i>	Through August 12, 2018
<i>For Opacity: Elijah Burgher, Toyin Ojih Odutola, Nathaniel Mary Quinn</i>	October 12, 2018–February 3, 2019
<i>Jennifer Wynne Reeves: All Right for Now</i>	October 12, 2018–February 3, 2019
<i>Open Sessions 12</i>	October 12–December 2, 2018
<i>Open Sessions 13</i>	December 14, 2018–February 3, 2019
<i>Winter Term: Center for Urban Pedagogy</i>	February 15–March 17, 2019
<i>Neo Rauch: Aus dem Boden / From the Floor</i>	April 11–August 4, 2019
<i>Open Sessions 14</i>	April 11–June 2019

INSTALLATIONS

<i>Susan York: Foundation</i> in the Lab Corridor	Through February 2019
<i>Inka Essenhigh: Manhattanhenge</i> in the Stairwell	Through August 2019

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