

Alexandre Singh: The Pledge

January 17–March 13, 2013

Main Gallery

Opening Reception: Wednesday, January 16, 6–8pm



For further information and images, please contact
Molly Gross, *Communications Director*, The Drawing Center
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January 17, 2013

Alexandre Singh, *Assembly Instructions (The Pledge-Leah Kelly)*, 2011. Framed inkjet ultrachrome archival print, 18 x 24 inches, #6 from a set of 37. Courtesy Sprueth Magers: Berlin and London; Art: Concept: Paris; Metro Pictures: New York; Monitor Gallery: Rome

New York – The Drawing Center presents *Alexandre Singh: The Pledge*, the first solo North American museum exhibition of works by the New York-based artist, comprised of the newest installment of his *Assembly Instructions* series, in which Singh creates collages out of material photocopied from books and magazines, scans the results, and organizes them in large diagrammatic arrangements connected by hand-drawn pencil dots on the wall. *The Pledge* is a departure for Singh in both scope and format. In a reverse move, he began this project not with images but with text: specifically, interviews that he conducted in 2011 with noted scientists, artists, writers, and filmmakers (among them, Danny Rubin, screenwriter and author of *Groundhog Day*; Leah Kelly, neurobiologist and researcher at The Rockefeller University, New York; and Simon Fujiwara, artist and performer) which he then fictionalized and published in an issue of the Palais de Tokyo's quarterly *PALAIS/Magazine*. Filling the Main Gallery, Singh's visual and mental maps position drawing not only as a physical gesture, but also as a graphic conduit for the imaginative process. At age 32, Singh is the youngest artist to have an exhibition in The Drawing Center's Main Gallery. The exhibition is curated by Claire Gilman, Curator.

Recently listed as one of *Flash Art's* top 100 emerging artists, Singh adopts a complex and wide-ranging approach that includes drawing, collage, performance, sculpture, multi-media installation and even literature. For his ongoing *Assembly Instructions* series, Singh translates eclectic subjects ranging from the history of modern art to the founding of the IKEA mega-store into self-described flow charts. Singh is at root a storyteller and therefore his work often achieves fulfillment in theatrical presentations that incorporate the artist's own captivating presence. And yet, part of

Singh's project is to foreground both the progress and elusivity of mental life, something that the artist reveals in diverse ways, including the drawn gesture.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alexandre Singh (b. 1980) is a visual artist and writer based in New York. His work derives at once from traditions in literature, performance, photo-conceptualism, and object-based installation art. Taking in such diverse genres as writing, collage, installation, and performance, Singh's works are characterized by obsessive details and linkages that draw upon a dizzying constellation of themes and characters. Singh is currently in residency at Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art in Rotterdam to write, produce, and direct a play entitled *The Humans*, which will be performed during the autumn of 2013. Singh has exhibited in venues throughout Europe and the United States, including Serpentine Gallery, London; the New Museum, New York; MoMA PS1, New York; the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; the Palais de Tokyo, Paris; and Sprueth Magers, Berlin. His work is held by a number of private and public collections including MoMA, New York, and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Thursday March 7 at 6:30pm

Conversation with the artist and The New Yorker's Andrea Scott.

Saturday, March 9 at 12:30pm

Walk-through of Alexandre Singh: *The Pledge* with artist Alexandre Singh and curator Claire Gilman.

PUBLICATION

To accompany *Alexandre Singh: The Pledge*, The Drawing Center will produce an extensively illustrated, 200-page edition in the *Drawing Papers* series that will include an essay by Claire Gilman, Curator, as well as texts by artist Jill Magid; curator, writer, and dramaturge Andre Lepecki; and author Vincenzo Latronico.

CREDITS

Alexandre Singh: The Pledge is made possible in part by Etant donnés: The French-American Fund for Contemporary Art and the Grand Marnier Foundation. Additional funding is provided by Zoe and Joel Dictrow.



ABOUT THE DRAWING CENTER

The Drawing Center is the only not-for-profit fine arts institution in the country to focus solely on the exhibition of drawings, both historical and contemporary. It was established in 1977 to provide opportunities for emerging and under-recognized artists; to demonstrate the significance and diversity of drawings throughout history; and to stimulate public dialogue on issues of art and culture.

HOURS & ACCESSIBILITY

Gallery hours are Wednesday-Sunday 12pm–6pm, Thursday, 12pm–8pm.

The Drawing Center is wheelchair accessible.

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Images Available for Reproduction

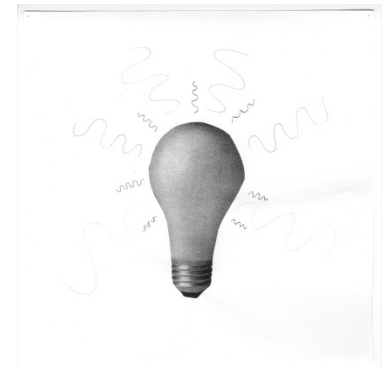
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Alexandre Singh, *Assembly Instructions (The Pledge- Leah Kelly)*, 2011. Framed inkjet ultrachrome archival print, 18 x 24 inches. No. 6 from a set of 37. Courtesy Sprueth Magers: Berlin and London; Art: Concept: Paris; Metro Pictures: New York; Monitor Gallery: Rome



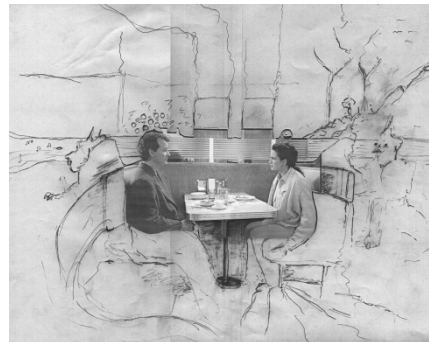
Alexandre Singh, *Assembly Instructions (The Pledge- Marc-Olivier Wahler)*, 2011. Framed inkjet ultrachrome archival print, 21 x 30 inches. No. 21 from a set of 43. Courtesy Sprueth Magers: Berlin and London; Art: Concept: Paris; Metro Pictures: New York; Monitor Gallery: Rome



Alexandre Singh, *Assembly Instructions (The Pledge- Marc-Olivier Wahler)*, 2011. Framed inkjet ultrachrome archival print, 23 x 23 inches. No. 29 from a set of 43. Courtesy Sprueth Magers: Berlin and London; Art: Concept: Paris; Metro Pictures: New York; Monitor Gallery: Rome



Alexandre Singh, *Assembly Instructions (The Pledge- Simon Fujiwara)*, 2011. Framed inkjet ultrachrome archival print, 40 x 23 inches. No. 4 from a set of 40. Courtesy Sprueth Magers: Berlin and London; Art: Concept: Paris; Metro Pictures: New York; Monitor Gallery: Rome



Alexandre Singh, *Assembly Instructions (The Pledge- Danny Rubin)*, 2012. Framed inkjet ultrachrome archival print, 40 x 50 inches. No. 25 from a set of 32. Courtesy Sprueth Magers: Berlin and London; Art: Concept: Paris; Metro Pictures: New York; Monitor Gallery: Rome



Alexandre Singh, *Assembly Instructions (The Pledge- Danny Rubin)*, 2012. Framed inkjet ultrachrome archival print, 40 x 50 inches. No. 26 from a set of 32. Courtesy Sprueth Magers: Berlin and London; Art: Concept: Paris; Metro Pictures: New York; Monitor Gallery: Rome