

The Drawing Center Sweeps Category in International Association of Art Critics/AICA-USA Awards

Leon Golub: Live & Die Like a Lion? and *Ree Morton: At the Still Point of the Turning World* Win First and Second Place for Best Show in a Non-Profit Gallery or Space

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The Drawing Center is pleased to announce that it has been awarded honors in the category of "Best Show in a Non-Profit Gallery or Space" by the International Association of Art Critics/AICA-USA. Sweeping its category, The Drawing Center won first place for the 2010 exhibition, *Leon Golub: Live & Die Like a Lion?*, curated by Executive Director Brett Littman, and second place for the 2009 exhibition *Ree Morton: At the Still Point of the Turning World*, curated by former Drawing Center Curator João Ribas.

Projects in a total of 12 categories were nominated and voted on by AICA's 400 active members. A complete list of first-and second-place award winners in all 12 categories is available at www.aicausa.org. The awards ceremony will take place at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art on March 14, 2011.

Brett Littman says, "It is a tremendous honor for The Drawing Center to be recognized for the excellence of our programming by AICA for the third year in a row. Leon Golub and Ree Morton are both artists who deserve more exposure for the groundbreaking and uncompromising oeuvres they left behind. I am very proud that The Drawing Center can develop intelligent and impactful exhibitions that garner the accolades of our peers."

Board Co-chair Frances Beatty Adler added, "AICA's recognition is a marvelous affirmation of the outstanding quality and originality of The Drawing Center's exhibitions. The Board is extremely

grateful to receive an award again this year from a group of our most knowledgeable and exacting colleagues.”

Leon Golub: Live & Die Like a Lion?, on view in the Main Gallery from April 23–July 23, 2010, was the first major museum exhibition to focus on the late drawings of the American artist Leon Golub (1922–2004). Featuring drawings made between 1999 and 2004, the exhibition also included Golub’s only existent unfinished painting—a chalk sketch of two lions—which he started in 2001 but never completed. The presentation marked Golub’s stylistic and thematic shift from a long-term preoccupation with the atrocities of the external world towards a more self-reflective and personal gaze. Curated by Brett Littman, the exhibition traveled to the Mary & Leigh Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University, Evanston, IL (September 24, 2010–December 12, 2010), and is currently on view at The Museum Het Domein, Sittard, Netherlands (January 22, 2011–April 24, 2011).

On view in The Drawing Center’s Main Gallery from September 18–December 18, 2009, *Ree Morton: At the Still Point of the Turning World* highlighted the artist’s influential body of work, remarkably all produced in a single decade between her decision to turn to art full-time in the late 1960s and her tragic death in an automobile accident in 1977, shortly before her 41st birthday. While reflecting many of the currents of post-Minimal art of the 1970s, Morton’s work also pioneered the use of personal narrative, intimacy, humor, and poetic imagination. The exhibition was curated by João Ribas, now curator at the MIT List Visual Arts Center.

The Drawing Center received first place awards from AICA/USA in 2010 for *Unica Zürn: Dark Spring*, in 2009 for *Frederick Kiesler: Co-Realities*, as well as recognition in 2006 for *3 x Abstraction: New Methods of Drawing by Emma Kunz, Hilma af Klimt, and Agnes Martin* and in 2001 for *The Prinzhorn Collection: Traces upon the Wunderblock*.

Leon Golub: Live & Die Like a Lion? was made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Dedalus Foundation.

Ree Morton: At the Still Point of the Turning World was made possible by The Henry Luce Foundation. Additional support is provided by The Judith Rothschild Foundation.

ABOUT AICA

AICA-USA is the United States section of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA), founded in June 1949 in Paris and originally affiliated with UNESCO as an NGO, or non-governmental organization. Currently there are 63 member nations representing more than 4,500 art critics worldwide. AICA-USA, headquartered in New York, is the largest national section, with a membership of over 400 distinguished critics and scholars nationwide.

AICA-USA promotes critical discourse and is dedicated to expanding awareness of the values of art criticism as a discipline and acting in defense of the physical and moral value of art. It is the only organization to award excellence in museum and gallery exhibitions and does so to indicate the standards by which its members judge what they see.

ABOUT THE DRAWING CENTER

The Drawing Center is the only museum in the United States 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 & LOCATION

The Drawing Center, located at 35 Wooster Street between Broome and Grand Streets, is open Wednesday, 12 to 6pm, Thursday, 12 to 8pm, and Friday-Sunday, 12 to 6pm (closed Mondays and Tuesdays). The Drawing Center is wheelchair accessible.