

THE DRAWING CENTER ANNOUNCES
Kathleen Henderson:
What If I Could Draw a Bird that Could Change the World?
Selections Fall 2008

Drawing Room

September 12 – October 9, 2008

Opening Reception: Thursday, September 11, 6 – 8 pm

Gallery Talk: Friday, September 12, 12:00 pm

New York, July 22, 2008 – From September 12 to October 9, 2008, The Drawing Center will present *Kathleen Henderson: What If I Could Draw a Bird that Could Change the World?* in the Drawing Room. The *Selections Fall 2008* exhibition departs from past *Selections* shows by featuring the work of a singular Viewing Program artist.

Henderson works in the studio with the radio on, the sounds of talking pundits and news reports filtering through her onto the page. While not a direct representation of the stories she hears, Henderson's work ruminates on issues that infiltrate our lives and inform our respective viewpoints. Using her chosen medium of oil stick on paper, Henderson creates a sparse, tense, and energetic line to make drawings that are at turns comic, perverse, poignant, and brutal. She presents ambiguous scenarios where seemingly innocent interactions between people hold implications of violence, or where brutality lurks behind a potentially playful situation. By offering up disquieting representations of patterns of human behavior, Henderson's work asks us to consider our own complicity in, and capacity for, violence as well as benevolence. This exhibition is curated by Nina Katchadourian, Viewing Program Curator.



KATHLEEN HENDERSON, *What If I Could Draw a Bird that Could Change the World?*, 2007. Oil stick on paper, 19 x 25 inches.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Kathleen Henderson (b. 1963, Boston, MA) lives and works in Canyon, CA. She received her B.F.A. from Boston University in 1985 and attended the M.F.A. Program at Queens College in 1986. Henderson's work has been included in group exhibitions in California, Massachusetts, and New York, as well as solo exhibitions at Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Santa Monica, CA (2007), Ashby Stage, Berkeley, CA (2005), and Stephen Wirtz Gallery, San Francisco, CA (2002). She is a recipient of an award from the National Endowment for the Arts for Works on Paper.

Continued on next page

The Drawing Center



KATHLEEN HENDERSON, *Hole*, 2008. Oil stick on paper, 17 1/2 x 23 inches.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Join us for lunch, followed by a tour and discussion on Friday, September 12 at 12:00 pm. Kathleen Henderson will talk about her practice and the body of work on view in the Drawing Room with curator Nina Katchadourian. Admission is \$5/ free to members (includes lunch). Please call 212-219-2166 ext. 214 by September 9 to reserve. Seating is limited.

PUBLICATION

As part of its ongoing publication series, The Drawing Center will publish *Drawing Papers 80: Kathleen Henderson: What If I Could Draw a Bird that Could Change the World?*, a 48-page publication featuring 20 black-and-white reproductions of the works exhibited in the show as well a transcription of a conversation between the artist and curator Nina Katchadourian.

HOURS & ACCESSIBILITY

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm (closed Sundays and Mondays). The Drawing Center is wheelchair accessible.

CREDITS

The Viewing Program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. Additional funding for this exhibition is provided by members of the Drawing Room, a patron circle founded to support innovative exhibitions in The Drawing Center's project gallery.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Drawing Center is the only fine arts institution in the U.S. 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.

www.drawingcenter.org

###