

**THE DRAWING CENTER TO SERVE AS ADVISOR  
ON \$2,000,000 PURCHASE OF DRAWINGS**

**MIDDLESBROUGH INSTITUTE OF MODERN ART WINS AWARD  
FROM THE ART FUND TO BUILD A COLLECTION OF DRAWINGS WITH THE  
COUNSEL OF THE DRAWING CENTER**

**New York, January, 2008** – The Drawing Center is pleased to announce that the Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima), Middlesbrough, United Kingdom, has been awarded £1million (approximately \$2,064,000) by The Art Fund, United Kingdom, to build their collection of drawings over the next five years in consultation with The Drawing Center, New York.

In the spring of 2007, The Art Fund, the UK's leading independent charitable organization dedicated to saving art, announced a new initiative, called “Art Fund International,” committing £5 million to help museums and galleries in the United Kingdom develop their collections of international contemporary art. A total of twenty-nine museums in Scotland, England, Northern Ireland, and Wales responded to The Art Fund's initial call for entries and five winners were ultimately selected. Of the award-winning partnerships, the collaboration between mima and The Drawing Center was the only one involving an organization outside of the UK.

The recently opened mima, founded in 2002, is quickly becoming one of the UK's leading institutions with a focus on collecting and presenting drawings. Godfrey Worsdale, Director of mima, said, “We are thrilled to be partnering with such an established and prestigious organization as The Drawing Center, and are very much looking forward to developing our joint venture over the coming months and years.”

mima's aim is to build an important collection of drawings made by artists living and working in North and South America from different generations and with varying degrees of renown. The ultimate goal is to secure outstanding works by those artists who are, and who will become, internationally significant.

“This partnership is extremely important to The Drawing Center,” said Brett Littman, Executive Director of The Drawing Center. “As an advisor to mima, we hope to develop a long-term collaboration that will serve to benefit both institutions. The Drawing Center, will , in the future, have access to mima's exceptional collection, which we will have helped shape.”

About mima

Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art is located approximately 250 miles north of London and is housed in a bold new building designed by Erick van Egeraat Associated Architects which opened in

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## The Drawing Center

January 2007. The collection comprises outstanding fine and applied art from 1900 to the present and currently includes over 1,500 drawings by approximately 1,000 artists. For more information, visit mima's website at [www.visitmima.com](http://www.visitmima.com).

### About The Art Fund and Art Fund International

The Art Fund is the UK's leading independent arts organization. It offers grants to help UK museums and galleries enrich their collections and campaigns widely on behalf of museums and their visitors. It is entirely funded from public donations and has 80,000 members. Since 1903, the organization has helped museums and galleries all over the UK secure 860,000 works of art for their collections. Independent of government, The Art Fund is uniquely placed to campaign on behalf of public collections across the UK.

The selection of the winning proposals was made by Art Fund International's Committee which includes five members of The Art Fund's Board (Professor Lord Renfrew (Chair); Professor Michael Craig Martin; Dr. David Landau; Dr. Deborah Swallow; and Felicity Waley-Cohen) and four external members with extensive international curatorial expertise (Catherine Lampert, former Director, Whitechapel; James Lingwood, co-Director, ArtAngel; Hans Ulrich Obrist, co-director of Exhibitions and Programmes and Director of International Projects, The Serpentine; and Ralph Rugoff, Director, Hayward Gallery).

The five winning partnerships are: Bristol Museums, Galleries and Archives in partnership with Arnolfini; Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow in partnership with The Common Guild; Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima) in partnership with The Drawing Center, New York; Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne in partnership with Photoworks, Brighton Photo Biennial, and Artsway; West Midlands partnership: Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and New Art Gallery Walsall in partnership with Ikon Gallery. For more information, visit [www.artfund.org](http://www.artfund.org).

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Drawing Center is the only not-for-profit U.S. museum 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 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.

[www.drawingcenter.org](http://www.drawingcenter.org)

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