

WHITNEY

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THE WHITNEY ANNOUNCES TWO NEW CURATORIAL APPOINTMENTS

NEW YORK, November 20, 2009—The Whitney Museum of American Art announced today the appointment of Scott Rothkopf as Curator, effective December 1, 2009, and the promotion of Dana Miller to Curator, Permanent Collection.

“These appointments occur as we gear up for our downtown expansion, a time of decisive and transformative growth for the institution,” said Adam D. Weinberg, the Whitney’s Alice Pratt Brown Director. “The respective strengths and fresh generational perspective of these two curators will be a great asset as we plan for our future. Scott Rothkopf approaches both contemporary art and historical subjects with the same sense of scholarly rigor and openness to discovery. Dana Miller is one of the most respected members of our curatorial team. She has distinguished herself with a series of exceptional accomplishments since she began her career at the Whitney in 1996.”

Donna De Salvo, the Whitney’s Chief Curator and Associate Director for Programs, said, “Scott is an articulate and singular voice in the field. A critic, curator and contemporary historian with a demonstrated expertise in American art, his tenure at *Artforum*, in particular, positions him perfectly to work with some of the most important art and artists of both past and present. As Curator, Permanent Collection, Dana will play a leading role in the ongoing development and display of the museum’s collection, as well as continue to curate exhibitions on the order of Buckminster Fuller and Jay DeFeo. These two appointments reflect the Whitney’s commitment to addressing some of the most critical questions in art today through its collections and exhibitions program.”

About Scott Rothkopf

Rothkopf comes to the Whitney from *Artforum*, where he has been Senior Editor since January 2004. During his time at the magazine he has been intimately involved in planning its editorial direction and has worked closely with many distinguished writers and artists on essays, projects, and special issues. He was a guest curator at Harvard University’s Fogg Art Museum, where he

organized *Mel Bochner Photographs 1966-1969* (2002), a survey of Bochner's photographic works and related drawings, which traveled to the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. At the Fogg, Rothkopf was also co-curator, with Linda Norden, of Pierre Huyghe's *This Is Not a Time for Dreaming* (2004), a site-specific installation, performance, and film made by Huyghe in response to Le Corbusier's Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts. The work has been exhibited internationally at venues including Tate Modern, the Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, and the Centre Pompidou, where it has entered the permanent collection of the Musée national d'art moderne. Rothkopf was a contributing curator of the 2007 Lyon Biennial, for which he selected and installed the work of Wade Guyton.

"I'm delighted to join the Whitney and its distinguished curatorial team at this pivotal moment for the museum," said Rothkopf. "The Whitney has long been a venturesome advocate for contemporary artists and an imaginative steward of a rich historical collection. I look forward to advancing that dual mission and to exploring new approaches to our understanding of art in the United States within a broader international context."

As a frequent contributor to *Artforum*, Rothkopf has written on exhibitions such as the Venice Biennale and the Whitney Biennial, and on topics ranging from the art and architectural criticism of the 1980s to the writings of 1960s critic Gene Swenson. His texts for the magazine have addressed the work of Ed Ruscha, Sol LeWitt, Paul Chan, Carroll Dunham, Josiah McElheny, T. J. Willcox, Katharina Fritsch, Richard Aldrich, Diller & Scofidio, Francesco Vezzoli, and Karen Kilimnik, who was the subject of his 2007 book, *Period Eye: Karen Kilimnik's Fancy Pictures*, co-authored with Meredith Martin. Rothkopf's museum and gallery catalogue contributions include essays on Jeff Koons, Wade Guyton, Eva Hesse, Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Kelley Walker, Terry Winters, and Takashi Murakami, as well as interviews with James Rosenquist and Laura Owens, for, among others, Tate Modern, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, the Kunsthalle Zürich, the Kunstverein in Hamburg, Le Magasin, Grenoble, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. In addition to writing for the catalogue of *Roni Horn aka Roni Horn*, on view at the Whitney from November 6, 2009, through January 24, 2010, Rothkopf is contributing to a book on *Paul Thek*, which will accompany the Whitney's retrospective in the fall of 2010.

Rothkopf has served as a visiting critic at the Yale University School of Art and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and has participated in numerous public lectures and panels, as well as having organized and chaired "Photography and Conceptual Art" with Ed Ruscha, John Baldessari, and Jan Dibbets at Harvard University, and "Transatlantic," a College Art Association session devoted to the interchange between American and European artists in the 1960s and '70s. He received his undergraduate and masters degrees in the history of art and architecture

from Harvard University, for which he is completing his Ph.D. on the work of Jeff Koons and the art of the 1980s.

About Dana Miller

As the Whitney's Associate Curator, Permanent Collection, for the past seven years, Dana Miller has concentrated primarily on the Museum's collection, working with her colleagues on acquisitions, loans, and conservation projects, as well as curating exhibitions drawn from the collection. During this time, she also organized the major loan exhibition *Buckminster Fuller: Starting with the Universe*, co-curated with Michael Hays, which was awarded first prize for Architecture and Design exhibitions by the International Association of Art Critics in 2008. Miller also co-edited the prize-winning catalogue that accompanied the exhibition. She is currently in the planning stages of a retrospective of the artist Jay DeFeo for the Whitney, which will build on an earlier show of DeFeo's work, *Beside the Rose: Selected Works by Jay DeFeo*, organized by Miller in 2003.

"It has been a pleasure working with the Whitney's talented staff for more than a decade," said Miller. "It continues to be a great privilege to participate in the development, research, and care of the permanent collection, which lies at the heart of the institution. I am particularly excited by the prospect of reconsidering narratives of American art at this time in history, and especially as the Whitney moves closer to realizing our goal of making more of our collection accessible to a wider audience."

Earlier this year Miller co-curated *Claes Oldenburg: Early Sculpture, Drawings, and Happenings Films* and *Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen: The Music Room*, along with curators Carter Foster and Chrissie Iles. In 2006 she was one of the co-curators of *Full House: Views of the Whitney's Collection at 75*, an exhibition that filled the entire museum. She curated *Overhead/Underfoot: The Topographical Perspective in Photography* (2005) and was the coordinating curator for *Picasso and American Art* (2006–2007) as well as the Whitney installations of *Cy Twombly: Fifty Years of Works on Paper* (2005) and *Isamu Noguchi: Master Sculptor* (2004–2005). She has also organized traveling collection exhibitions, including *Picturing America*, which circulated to six museums in Japan (2005–2006) and *Extra-Ordinary: The Everyday Object in American Art* (2005–2007), which toured the United States for more than a year. She has written about the Whitney's collection works for numerous publications.

Within the museum, Miller also sits on committees dedicated to loans, issues of replication, the museum's website, and visitor experience. Miller received her B.A. from Duke University and her

M.A. in art history from Columbia University. She is a peer of the General Services Administration's Art in Architecture Program.

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the leading advocate of 20th- and 21st-century American art. Founded in 1930, the Museum is regarded as the preeminent collection of American art and includes major works and materials from the estate of Edward Hopper, the largest public collection of works by Alexander Calder, as well as significant works by Jasper Johns, Donald Judd, Agnes Martin, Bruce Nauman, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, Kiki Smith, and Andy Warhol, among other artists. With its history of exhibiting the most promising and influential American artists and provoking intense critical and public debate, the Whitney's signature show, the Biennial, has become the most important survey of the state of contemporary art in America today. First housed on West 8th Street, the Whitney relocated in 1954 to West 54th Street and in 1966 inaugurated its present home at 945 Madison Avenue, designed by Marcel Breuer. The Whitney is currently moving ahead with plans to build a second facility, designed by Renzo Piano, located in downtown New York at the entrance to the High Line in the Meatpacking District.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art:

Steve Wolfe on Paper	Through November 29, 2009
A Few Frames: Photography and the Contact Sheet	Through January 3, 2010
Georgia O'Keeffe: Abstraction	Through January 17, 2010
Roni Horn aka Roni Horn	Through January 24, 2010
Alice Guy Blaché: Cinema Pioneer	Through January 24, 2010
Omer Fast: Nostalgia	December 10, 2009–February 14, 2010
2010 Biennial	February 25–May 30, 2010
Heat Waves in a Swamp: The Paintings of Charles Burchfield	Opens June 24, 2010

The Whitney Museum is located at 945 Madison Avenue at 75th Street, New York City. Museum hours are: Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday. General admission: \$18. Full-time students and visitors ages 19–25 and 62 & over: \$12. Visitors 18 & under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission to the Kaufman Astoria Studios Film & Video Gallery only: \$6. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6–9 pm. For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit whitney.org.