

# WHITNEY

## Press Release

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## NEW ROLE FOR SCOTT ROTHKOPF AT THE WHITNEY



Credit: David Velasco

**NEW YORK, December 7, 2012** -- The Whitney Museum of American Art announced today that curator Scott Rothkopf has been appointed to the newly created post of Curator and Associate Director of Programs. Working closely with Donna De Salvo, the Museum's Chief Curator and Deputy Director for Programs, Rothkopf will help advance programming strategy,

collection development, and interdepartmental initiatives as the Whitney prepares to move to its new building downtown in 2015. He will also continue in his role as curator.

De Salvo noted: “I’m delighted that Scott will be working with me – and with our extraordinary curatorial team – in his new role. We created this position at a transformational moment in the museum’s history to help us meet the challenges ahead. Three years ago we welcomed Scott as one of the most important emerging voices in the field. He has made enormous contributions to the Museum as a curator and demonstrated a talent for the kind of broad and strategic thinking that will be invaluable to the team as we chart the Whitney’s future. “

Since joining the Whitney’s staff as curator in December 2009, Mr. Rothkopf has organized several critically acclaimed exhibitions, including *Wade Guyton OS* and *Sinister Pop* (co-curated with De Salvo), both currently on view. Previously he organized *Glenn Ligon: AMERICA*, which traveled to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and to the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, and *Singular Visions* (co-curated with Dana Miller), a selection of highlights from the museum’s postwar holdings. His next exhibition will be the most comprehensive retrospective to date of the work of Jeff Koons; it debuts in 2014 at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, before coming to the Whitney, where it will fill nearly the entire Breuer building. It will also travel to the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

Rothkopf previously served as a guest curator at Harvard’s Fogg Art Museum, where in 2004 he co-organized *This Is Not a Time for Dreaming* (with Linda Norden) and was also curator of the 2002 exhibition *Mel Bochner Photographs, 1966–1969*, which traveled to the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. From 2004 through 2009, Rothkopf was a senior editor of *Artforum International*. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in art history from Harvard University.

### **About the Whitney**

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the world’s leading museum of twentieth-century and contemporary art of the United States. Focusing particularly on works by living artists, the Whitney is celebrated for presenting important exhibitions and for its renowned collection, which comprises over 19,000 works by more than 2,900 artists. With a history of exhibiting the

most promising and influential artists and provoking intense debate, the Whitney Biennial, the Museum's signature exhibition, has become the most important survey of the state of contemporary art in the United States. In addition to its landmark exhibitions, the Museum is known internationally for events and educational programs of exceptional significance and as a center for research, scholarship, and conservation.

Founded by sculptor and arts patron Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney in 1930, the Whitney was first housed on West 8th Street in Greenwich Village. The Museum relocated in 1954 to West 54th Street and, in 1966, inaugurated its present home, designed by Marcel Breuer, at 945 Madison Avenue on the Upper East Side. While its vibrant program of exhibitions and events continues uptown, the Whitney is moving forward with a new building project, designed by Renzo Piano, in downtown Manhattan. Located at the corner of Gansevoort and Washington Streets in the Meatpacking District, at the southern entrance to the High Line, the new building, which has generated immense momentum and support, will enable the Whitney to vastly increase the size and scope of its exhibition and programming space. Ground was broken on the new building in May 2011, and it is projected to open to the public in 2015.

### **Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art**

<b>...as apple pie</b>	Through early 2013
<b>Wade Guyton OS</b>	Through January 13, 2013
<b>Richard Artschwager!</b>	Through February 3, 2013
<b>Trisha Baga: Plymouth Rock 2</b>	Through January 13, 2013
<b>Sinister Pop</b>	Through March 31, 2013
<b>Dark and Deadpan: Pop in TV and the Movies</b>	Through March 31, 2013
<b>Blues for Smoke</b>	February 7-April 28, 2013
<b>Jay DeFeo: A Retrospective</b>	February 28-June 2, 2013

*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: \$14. Visitors 18 & under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6–9 p.m. For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit [whitney.org](http://whitney.org).*