

# WHITNEY

Whitney Museum of American Art  
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## Press Release

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### WHITNEY TO PRESENT *BETH CAMPBELL: FOLLOWING ROOM* December 7, 2007–February 24, 2008



*Following Room*, 2007 (installation view, Feldman Gallery, Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, Oregon, 2007). Mixed media, dimensions variable. Photograph by Mack McFarland

New York, November 19, 2007 – Beth Campbell’s widely diverse body of work investigates notions of the ordinary and the everyday, which are made strange, new, and unfamiliar by the artist’s clever hand. *Beth Campbell: Following Room* opens at the Whitney Museum of American Art on December 7, and remains on view in the Anne & Joel Ehrenkrantz Lobby Gallery through February 24. In this site-specific installation, Campbell arranges replicas of a reading room into a grid of mirrored pairs, evoking the trompe l’oeil of a three-dimensional infinity mirror. This is the first major New York museum presentation of Campbell’s work.

Tina Kukielski, the Whitney’s senior curatorial assistant who organized the exhibition, writes in an essay that accompanies the show: “For artist Beth Campbell, the investigation of the anxiety-inducing aspects of memory and counter-memory, pattern recognition and its rupture, is an anchor of her practice. For Campbell, this exploration is oftentimes personal, and she positions her installations, videos, sculptures, and drawings in close

relation to her own subjective view. Yet complicating what appears at first glance to be a facsimile of life is the artist's masterful ability to confound any expectation. Scenarios repeat in seemingly countless iterations and, in turn, what existed on the plane of the banal becomes twisted and distorted, challenging the limits of human perception."

Beth Campbell was born in Illinois in 1971, and now lives and works in New York. She attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Maine (1997); Ohio University, Athens, Ohio (MFA, 1997); and Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri (BFA, 1993). She began exhibiting in 1997, and has had solo exhibitions at Nicole Klagsbrun Gallery, New York; Sala Diaz, San Antonio; Art Basel, Miami Beach; Art Academy of Cincinnati; Sandroni Rey Gallery, Los Angeles, Roebing Hall, Brooklyn; and White Columns, New York. She has also participated in shows at Artists Space, New York; the 6<sup>th</sup> Mercosul Biennial, Porto Alegre, Brazil; Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh; New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; Bronx Museum, Bronx; and P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City. In 2007, Campbell collaborated with the Public Art Fund on her project *Potential Store Fronts* at 125 Maiden Lane, New York, New York. Her work is represented in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art, New York; New School University, New York; New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. She is the recent recipient of a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant (2006).

### **About the Whitney**

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the leading advocate of 20<sup>th</sup>- and 21<sup>st</sup>-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, Louise Nevelson, and Lucas Samaras, as well as significant works by Jasper Johns, Donald Judd, Agnes Martin, Bruce Nauman, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claes Oldenburg, 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.

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

Jacob Lawrence: Selections from Migration Series  
Mark Bradford  
Piotr Uklanski: Summer Love  
Danny Lyon

November 21, 2007-January 6, 2008  
Through November 25, 2007  
Through December 9, 2007  
Through January 13, 2007

Modernisms	Through January 13, 2008
The Whitney's Collection	Opens January 30, 2008
Kara Walker	Through February 3, 2008
Lawrence Weiner	Through February 10, 2008
Two Years: Additions to the Collection, 2006-07	Through February 17, 2008
Demuth's Late Paintings of Lancaster	February 23-April 27, 2008
2008 Whitney Biennial	Opens March 6, 2008
Buckminster Fuller: Starting with the Universe	Opens Summer 2008
Alexander Calder: The Paris Years	October 16, 2008-February 15, 2009

*The Whitney Museum is located at 945 Madison Avenue, 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. Admission is \$15 for adults; Members, children (ages 11 and under), and New York City public high school students free. Senior citizens (62 and over) and students with valid ID: \$10. There is a \$6 admission fee for a pass to the Kaufman Astoria Studios Film & Video Gallery only. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6-9 pm. For information, please call 1-800 WHITNEY or visit [www.whitney.org](http://www.whitney.org)*

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

Undone Through December 2007

*The Whitney Museum of American Art at Altria is located at 120 Park Avenue at 42nd Street. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Sculpture Court Hours: Monday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Sundays and holidays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Whitney Museum at Altria is funded by Altria Group, Inc. Admission is free. Free gallery talks are offered every Wednesday and Friday at 1:00 p.m. For further information, please call (917) 663-2453.*