The Museum of Modern Art

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SAMARAS DRAWINGS ON VIEW AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART NO. 12

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Lucas Samaras 1974, an exhibition of 36 pastel drawings from a suite of more than 100 which the artist executed during the past year, will be on view on the first floor of The Museum of Modern Art from March 3 through April 13.

Samaras, who is well known for his series of chair transformations and "Auto-Polaroids," has for the past year devoted his principal energies to this group of drawings. All measure thirteen by ten inches and were executed on black Bristol paper. The drawings mark a return for Samaras to the medium of pastel, which he had stopped using nine years ago. "The subjects of the untitled pastels orchestrate themselves into specific series of related images, a disquieting anthology of concurrent dreams," states William S. Lieberman, Director of the Department of Drawings. "Like Redon, Samaras is a poet who celebrates the night."

In Samaras' text for the brochure which accompanies the exhibition, he writes that the current pastels represent a "gratifying 'good to see you again' syndrome sensibility.... Whatever satisfactions and bedazzlements I got from other mediums and materials the feel, the density, the dry delicacy of pastel could not be transferred.

"These pastels are not symbols or impressions of things seen but brief fragile confronting suggestions."

The exhibition has been selected and installed by Bernice Rose, Associate Curator of Drawings, and will travel after its New York showing.

The Museum of Modern Art gratefully acknowledges the support of its exhibition program by the New York State Council on the Arts.

Additional information, photographs and color transparencies available from Michael Boodro, Assistant, and Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., New York, NY 10019. Phone: (212) 956-7504; 7501.