## The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release March 1988

## STUART WREDE NAMED DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

March 9, 1988. . . . Richard E. Oldenburg, Director of The Museum of Modern Art, announced today the appointment of Stuart Wrede as Director of the Department of Architecture and Design. Mr. Wrede joined the department as Curator in September 1985 and has served as Acting Director since Arthur Drexler's death in January 1987. He first became affiliated with the Museum in 1978 when he guest directed the exhibition THE ARCHITECTURE OF ERIK GUNNAR ASPLUND.

"It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Stuart Wrede to the directorship of this important area of the Museum's curatorial program," stated Mr. Oldenburg. "Since the tragic loss of Arthur Drexler, Stuart has most ably assumed the responsibility of heading the Architecture and Design Department. He is very well qualified to maintain and extend the department's high standards and distinguished record of accomplishments."

Donald B. Marron, President of the Museum, welcomed this appointment on behalf of the Board of Trustees, noting that "Stuart Wrede has impressed the trustees and members of the Committee on Architecture and Design with his excellent performance as Acting Director during the past year. He is highly regarded by his colleagues in the profession, and we are delighted to confirm him in this post."

Since Mr. Wrede (pronounce vray-deh) joined the Museum's staff, he has organized MARIO BOTTA (1986), the second exhibition in the Gerald D. Hines

Interests Architecture Program at The Museum of Modern Art, which was also accompanied by a catalog; and LE CORBUSIER: 5 PROJECTS (1987), commemorating the centennial of the architect's birth. Presently he is organizing THE MODERN POSTER, opening June 6. Drawn from the Museum's collection, this major exhibition reassesses posters from the early twentieth century and represents international developments in poster design over the last twenty years.

Mr. Wrede was previously Director of the Oregon School of Design in Portland. Since 1977 he has taught at several universities, including the graduate schools of architecture of Columbia University, Yale University, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1975-76 he was a Visiting Fellow at the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies in New York. A registered architect, Mr. Wrede has also carried on an architectural practice.

The author of <u>The Architecture of Erik Gunnar Asplund</u>, published by MIT Press in 1980, Mr. Wrede has translated the writings of Alvar Aalto, published under the title <u>Sketches</u> by MIT Press in 1978. In addition, he has published a number of scholarly articles on Asplund, Aalto, and Nordic classicism in various architectural journals, as well as lectured widely in the United States and Canada. He has been the recipient of grants from the Graham Foundation and the American Scandinavian Foundation.

Born in 1944 in Helsinki, Finland, Stuart Wrede came to the United States in 1957. He received a bachelor of arts degree in 1965 and a masters of architecture in 1970, both from Yale University. While at Yale he was an Editor of Perspecta 12, the Yale architectural journal.

Founded in 1932, the Department of Architecture and Design was the first curatorial division at any museum worldwide devoted entirely to architecture and design. Its collection today totals over 3,000 design objects representing

all the arts of manufacture, from household appliances and furniture to tools and textiles; over 4,000 objects of graphic design, including posters, typography, and other printed combinations of word and image; more than sixty architectural models and 150 architectural drawings; and the Ludwig Mies van der Rohe Archive.

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No. 12

For further information, contact Jeanne Collins or Jessica Schwartz, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.