

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release

MARGIT ROWELL NAMED CHIEF CURATOR OF DEPARTMENT OF DRAWINGS AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

February 3, 1994.....Richard E. Oldenburg, Director of The Museum of Modern Art, announced today the appointment of Margit Rowell as Chief Curator of Drawings, effective August 1994. She is currently Chief Curator, in charge of sculpture, Musée National d'art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, for which she is organizing a Brancusi retrospective to open in 1995. As Chief Curator, Ms. Rowell will oversee the Museum's drawings collection and the Department's acquisitions, exhibition, and loan programs, as well as its administrative responsibilities.

Ms. Rowell succeeds John Elderfield, who last year assumed new responsibilities at the Museum as Chief Curator at Large; he will continue to head the Department of Drawings until Ms. Rowell joins the Museum's staff this summer. At the same time, Mr. Elderfield has named Magdalena Dabrowski, who has been a member of the Museum's curatorial staff since 1975 and Curator since 1991, as Senior Curator of Drawings.

Mr. Oldenburg stated, "I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Margit Rowell as Chief Curator in this major area of the Museum's program. Her accomplishments as curator and scholar are internationally known and respected. With her proven expertise, imagination, and energy, she will continue and expand our Museum's distinguished record in the field of modern and contemporary drawing."

Agnes Gund, Chairman of the Museum, welcomed this appointment on behalf of the Board of Trustees, stating "Margit Rowell has impressed the Trustees

and members of the Committee on Drawings with her extraordinary record of achievement both in the exhibition and publication of work ranging from the Russian avant-garde to Joan Miró to contemporary art. We are pleased to add to our curatorial staff someone of Margit's outstanding talent and museum experience both here and abroad, and her appointment is most appropriate to the Museum's ongoing tradition of curatorial excellence."

Ms. Rowell added, "I am delighted to be joining The Museum of Modern Art staff and extremely grateful for the opportunity to work with the Museum's incomparable drawing collection. I have had a lifelong, particular interest in drawing ever since graduate school, where I wrote my master's thesis in this field, and drawings have been prominent in many exhibitions I have prepared. When I come to the Museum this summer, I hope to be able to add meaningfully to a department that has made such major contributions to the study and appreciation of modern drawing."

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