2015 SCHEDULE OF EXHIBITIONS AND INITIATIVES

2015 Triennial: “Surround Audience”
February 25–May 24, 2015
Museum-wide

A signature program of the New Museum, the Triennial is the only recurring international exhibition in New York City devoted to early-career artists from around the world. It provides an important platform for an emergent generation of artists that is shaping the discourse of contemporary art. The 2015 Triennial is organized by Lauren Cornell, Curator at the New Museum, and iconic artist Ryan Trecartin, who was featured in the inaugural 2009 Triennial. This third iteration of the Triennial is titled “Surround Audience” and will feature fifty-one artists and artist collectives from over twenty-five countries; for many of the participants, this will be their first inclusion in a museum exhibition in the United States. The exhibition will encompass a variety of artistic practices, including sound, dance, comedy, poetry, installation, sculpture, painting, video, and one online talk show. “Surround Audience” is inspired in part by Trecartin’s own artistic practice, which, as Cornell describes, “vividly manifests a world in which the effects of technology and late capitalism have been absorbed into our bodies and altered our vision of the world.” A tension between the newfound freedoms and threats of today’s society animates and anchors the exhibition: We are surrounded by a culture replete with impressions of life, be they visual, written, or construed through data. We move through streams of chatter, swipe past pictures of other people’s lives, and frame our own experiences as, all the while, our digital trails are subtly captured, tracked, and stored. “Surround Audience” explores how artists are currently depicting subjectivity, unpacking complex systems of power, and claiming sites of artistic agency.

The Great Ephemeral
Co-presented by Taipei Contemporary Art
May 27–September 6, 2015
Fifth Floor Floor

TCAC has been invited—through a Hub residency—to co-organize an exhibition at the Museum that extends upon its research on art production and value, which was the focus of its spring 2012 project “Trading Futures.” “The Great Ephemeral” responds to the speculative nature of the global market, whether by exploring its intangible, even emotional, aspects or offering clear-eyed commentary on its social effects and inequalities. Artists include CHEN Chieh-jen, Heman Chong, CHOU Yu-Cheng, Nir Evron, Joel Holmberg, Lee Kit, Chelsea Knight, Minouk Lim, and Constantina Zavitsanos.

“Albert Oehlen: Home and Garden”
June 10–September 13, 2015
Third and Fourth Floors

The New Museum will present the first major New York exhibition of the German artist Albert Oehlen (b. 1954). Demonstrating his immeasurable influence on contemporary painting, the exhibition will feature paintings from several of his most important bodies of work, including a selection of his early self-portraits, his “Computer Paintings” and “Switch Paintings” from the 1990s, and more recent works...
fusing appropriated advertising signage and aggressive brushstrokes. Across all of his work, Oehlen displays an experimental and intuitive approach to painting infused with a refreshingly irrational sensibility inspired by a variety of influences, including punk and Surrealism. Rather than following a chronological path through Oehlen’s prodigious thirty-year career, the exhibition explores contrasts between interior and exterior, nature and culture, and irony and sincerity, “Home and Garden” will illustrate Oehlen’s commitment to continually expanding the language of painting in surprising ways. In recent years, as a younger generation of artists has turned again to painting as a critical medium, Oehlen’s work has only become more influential and prescient. The exhibition is curated by Massimiliano Gioni, Artistic Director, and Gary Carrion-Murayari, Kraus Family Curator, with Natalie Bell, Assistant Curator.

“Sarah Charlesworth: Doubleworld”  
June 24–September 20, 2015  
Second Floor

Over the course of a thirty-five-year career, American conceptual artist and photographer Sarah Charlesworth (1947–2013) investigated pivotal questions about the role of images in our culture. Her influential body of work deconstructed the conventions of photography and illuminated the medium’s importance in mediating our perception of the world. The exhibition at the New Museum will bring together a selection of over fifty works from the scope of Charlesworth’s career, including “Stills” (1980), marking the first time that the complete series has been presented in New York, and a selection of her most influential bodies of work such as her groundbreaking series “Modern History” (1977-79); the alluring and exacting “Objects of Desire” (1983-88); “Doubleworld” (1995), which marks Charlesworth’s transition to a more active role behind the camera; and her radiant last series, “Available Light” (2012).” This will be the first major museum survey in New York of the artist’s work, encompassing an innovative career that has taken on shifting significance with time as it continues to inspire contemporary artists drawing from our increasingly image-saturated culture. The exhibition is curated by Massimiliano Gioni, Artistic Director, and Margot Norton, Associate Curator. The “Stills” series is presented in association with the Art Institute of Chicago.

“Leonor Antunes: I Stand Like A Mirror Before You”  
June 24–September 6, 2015  
Lobby Gallery

Portuguese artist Leonor Antunes (b. 1972) creates sculptures that reflect the environment that surrounds them and make reference to the work of lesser-known figures from the history of twentieth-century architecture and design. Her interest in craft and handwork shines through in her use of wood, bamboo, leather, brass, rope, and string; these materials often find sculptural form as vertical or horizontal demarcations in space or as woven transparent nets and grids. This will be the artist’s first presentation in a New York institution and will include a body of new works made for the Museum’s Lobby Gallery. Working from measurements and proportions specific to the New Museum building, Antunes’s new sculptures refer to the vernacular principles that characterize the work of Swedish furniture designer and architect Greta Grossman (1906–1999). The installation also considers the American experimental filmmaker, choreographer, and writer Maya Deren’s (1917–1961) thoughts on the transformative potential of cinema as a reflective surface. Antunes has created a densely choreographed series of hanging and standing sculptures that mirror one another and use the glass wall of the Lobby Gallery as a screen for reflection that, for the artist, also becomes the screen through which we see her works in our own reflection. The exhibition is curated by Helga Christoffersen, Assistant Curator.

“Jim Shaw: The End is Here”  
Second, Third, and Fourth Floors

The New Museum will present the first American survey exhibition of the work of Jim Shaw (b. 1952).
Over the past thirty years, Shaw has become one of the United States’ most influential and visionary artists, moving between painting, sculpture, and drawing, and building connections between his own psyche and America’s larger political, social, and spiritual histories. Shaw mines his imagery from the cultural refuse of the twentieth century, using comic books, record covers, conspiracy magazines, and obscure religious iconography to produce a portrait of the nation’s subconscious. Although a recognized icon of the Los Angeles art scene since the 1970s, Shaw has never had a museum show in New York. “The End is Here” will present some of Shaw’s most iconic projects, including early airbrush drawings; large selections from his series “Dream Drawings” (1992–99), “Dream Objects” (1994–present), and the sprawling “My Mirage” (1987–91); and Labyrinth: I dreamed I was taller than Jonathan Borofsky (2009), a large-scale, immersive installation of sculptures and painted theatrical backdrops. These instantly recognizable works and series—which succeed in reinvigorating and complicating traditional categories like portraiture, history painting, figurations, and abstraction—have never before been brought together in a single exhibition. This survey will also include a presentation of his collection of thrift store paintings, originally shown in New York in 1991, as well as his ongoing collection of religious pedagogical materials that he has been amassing for decades. These two collections demonstrate Shaw’s unique insight into the spiritual and aesthetic history of America and the ways in which the obscure, personal expressions he has collected have informed his own unique artworks. The exhibition is curated by Massimiliano Gioni, Artistic Director, and Gary Carrion-Murayari, Kraus Family Curator, with Margot Norton, Associate Curator.

SPRING 2015 R&D SEASON: SPECULATION

Organized by the New Museum’s Department of Education and Public Engagement, the Spring 2015 R&D (Research and Development) Season leads an investigative examination of the theme of SPECULATION via a range of activities anchored by residencies with artists Chelsea Knight and Constantina Zavitsanos and culminating in an exhibition organized in collaboration with Taipei Contemporary Art Center. For this R&D Season, SPECULATION is considered for, among other things, its volatile relationship to faith and evocation of diverse possibilities for imagined futures, including alternative economies that focus on caregiving, collective labor, and new modes of distribution. For her residency, Chelsea Knight will produce the final chapters of Fall to Earth, a cycle of short videos inspired by Salman Rushdie’s magical-realist novel The Satanic Verses. Constantina Zavitsanos’s residency includes a series of research-driven programs organized around speculative concepts of planning, contingency, and care. The exhibition “The Great Ephemeral” co-organized with the Taipei Contemporary Art Center (TCAC) will negotiate the role of “economics” (whether financial, symbolic, or alternative) in various artists’ works while highlighting the deeply unquantifiable aspects of “value” itself. The New Museum’s R&D Seasons are spearheaded by Johanna Burton, Keith Haring Director and Curator of Education and Public Engagement. Further details & full schedule of programming

The Fall 2015 R&D Season: PERSONA will be anchored by a multiphasic residency with Wynne Greenwood, best known for her multimedia queer feminist art band Tracy + the Plastics (1999–2006). More information will be released in early summer.

FIRST LOOK: NEW ART ONLINE

First Look: New Art Online is an ongoing series of innovative online projects and new commissions co-curated and copresented by the New Museum and Rhizome and on view on both organizations’ websites. The most recent project, concurrent with the 2015 New Museum Triennial, is “Poetry as Practice.” Through the work of six poets—Alex Turgeon, Penny Goring, Tan Lin, Ye Mimi, Melissa Broder, and not_I—“Poetry as Practice” considers online poetry as a process embedded in material, technological systems, and everyday, embodied experiences. Released each Monday over a six-week period, these works are newly commissioned, with the exception of Ye’s, and play out across a range of media, including online video, JavaScript, and NewHive. Through this hybrid approach, poetry is considered as media, and digital media—which can be thought of as a linguistic form or computer code—is activated as poetry. Other 2014 projects include works by artists Perry Chen, Amalia Ulman, Miranda July, and Frances Stark and David Kravitz. First Look is curated by Lauren Cornell, Curator, 2015 Triennial, Museum as Hub, and Digital Projects, and Michael Connor, Editor and Curator, Rhizome.
IDEAS CITY Festival
May 28–30, 2015

IDEAS CITY explores the future of cities with culture as a driving force. It builds on the New Museum’s mission of “New Art, New Ideas” by expanding the Museum beyond its walls into the civic realm. Through talks, panels, workshops, projects, performances, and exhibitions, IDEAS CITY investigates key issues, proposes solutions, and seeds concrete actions. It is a major collaborative initiative between hundreds of arts, education, and civic organizations and in past years has brought over fifty thousand people to the Bowery neighborhood respectively. This May, the New Museum will present the third IDEAS CITY Festival in downtown New York. The theme of this year’s Festival is The Invisible City, an homage to Italo Calvino’s literary masterpiece of 1972. This theme is rooted in public action, with each of the Festival’s platforms serving as an invitation to explore questions of transparency and surveillance, citizenship and representation, expression and suppression, participation and dissent, and the enduring quest for visibility in the city. IDEAS CITY is led by Joseph Grima, Director, with Richard Flood, Director of Special Projects & Curator at Large, and Corinne Erni, Senior Producer. Visit ideas-city.org.

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