



DRAWN (OVER): Contemporary Drawing from LeRoy Neiman Until Today

Curators: Tomas Vu, Mirjana Dušić-Lazić

Exhibition opening: **Friday, Jun 15, 2018 at 8:00pm**

Duration of the exhibition: June 15 - July 9, 2018

Museum of Contemporary Art Vojvodina, Dunavska 37, Novi Sad, Serbia

The exhibition *DRAWN (OVER): Contemporary Drawing from LeRoy Neiman Until Today* is a part of an international project DRAW that was launched by the **LeRoy Neiman Center for Print Studies** at Columbia University in New York.

In cooperation with the **Museum of Contemporary Art of Vojvodina** in Novi Sad, Serbia, The exhibition *DRAWN (OVER)* brings together the private sketches and drawings of seventy artists from around the world in an exhibition that provides a rare, revealing look into the drawing process and artists' innermost thoughts. The participating artists are:

Yasi Alipour	Gandalf Gavan	Marko Marković	Luis Silva
David Altmejd	Eric Guerrero	Nikola Marković	Dana Sherwood
Natalie Birinyi	Ben Hagari	Bryan McGovern Wilson	Dasha Shishkin
Cecily Brown	Valerie Hammond	Nora Mesaroš	Kiki Smith
Phong Bui	Suzanne Herrera	Dante Migone-Ojeda	Dragana B. Stevanović
Ernesto Caivano	Duy Hoàng	Johana Moscoso	Emma Sulkowicz
Nathan Catlin	Cary Hulbert	LeRoy Neiman	Sarah Sze
Saint Clair Cemin	Jasper Johns	Brian Novatny	TARWUK
Aurélien Couput	Goran Jureša	Jennifer Nuss	Rirkrit Tiravanija
Predrag Dimitrijević	Kurt Kemp	Norman Paris	Tomas Vu
Jelena Djurić	William Kentridge	Mark Perlman	John Walker
Rafael Domenech	Hedya Klein	Eva Petrić	Kara Walker
Riaki Enyama	Susanna Koetter	Kristin Plucar	Heimo Wallner
Ghada Amer and	Nataša Kokić	Nemanja i	Tommy White
Reza Farkhondeh	Fred H.C. Liang	Vladimir Radusinović	Peter Wayne Lewis
Fab Five Freddy	Kate Liebman	Jessica Segall	Yuan Zuo
Ivan Forde	Nicola López	Monika Sigeti	
Barnaby Furnas	Tijana Luković	Shahzia Sikander	

The exhibition seeks to unearth a raw form of creative energy channeling the essential truth of an artist not pasteurized for public consumption. Unlike artwork created for public or commercial use, the diverse array of works included in *DRAWN (OVER)* will reveal an authenticity that exists in intimate spaces hidden from the public eye such as an artist's sketchbook or studio. By focusing on the medium of drawing, the purpose of this exhibition is to showcase not the finished, polished products of traditional art exhibitions but rather the authentic, unfiltered beginning of something recorded through drawing.

The concept of the *Draw* project began with the discovery of several sketchbooks that no one knew existed excavated from the New York studio of the late **LeRoy Neiman** after the artist's passing. The stark difference between the drawings covering the pages of a sketchbook from 1949–52 compared to the characteristically jocular and proud imagery of Neiman's "Americana" is shocking, if not jarring. Neiman himself has publicly asserted that he does not attempt to delve much beyond the surface in his work. "When I paint, I seriously consider the public presence of a person—the surface facade," he wrote in *Art and Life Style*. "I am less concerned with how people look when they wake up or how they act at home. A person's public presence reflects his own efforts at image development." In these sketchbooks, however, gone are the prismatic and impressionistic illustrations of famous people and places. Instead, we find the murky depths of the realm of demons, mutated monsters and mythical beasts to reveal a completely diverging, hidden side of the famed artist. This discovery begs the question: how many more of these kinds of artist sketchbooks are out there? And, where does the artist go in the absence of outside pressures, expectations and interpretation?

To begin to answer this question about the artists' internal dialogue, artists including **Jasper Johns**, **Kiki Smith**, **Cecily Brown**, **William Kentridge**, **Sarah Sze**, and **Kara Walker** will have their drawings displayed unconventionally as one might find them in a private studio. Works will hang from floor to ceiling in multiple groupings. Though traditional exhibitions have included sketches and studies as secondary accessories of an artist's work, *Draw* engages these works as the forefront of the show. In doing so, the exhibition *DRAWN (OVER)* offers a glimpse into the maker's process, a microcosm of the artist's creative mind.

In addition to works hanging on the walls, this exhibition will include an interactive, live-action mural titled *Demonstration Drawings* by **Rirkrit Tiravanija** that will reflect some of the most pressing political topics of our time. Reconsidering the relevance of past resistance in light of today's political climate, Tiravanija will invite local artists and volunteers to draw onto the walls of the exhibition using photographs collected over the course of many years that depict public protests and mass demonstrations from across the globe. This live drawing will provide a perspectival view of collective action and popular sovereignty movements worldwide—turning ephemeral images of strife and social conflict into documents of political aspiration. In participating in Rirkrit's work, volunteers become implicated in the concept of activism.

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