

**For Immediate Release:** December 18, 2014

Contact: Gia Storms, Chief Communications Officer, 310-443-7056, [gstorms@hammer.ucla.edu](mailto:gstorms@hammer.ucla.edu)

## THE HAMMER MUSEUM ANNOUNCES CURATORS FOR *MADE IN L.A. 2016* Aram Moshayedi and Hamza Walker will curate the next Los Angeles biennial

(Los Angeles, CA)—The Hammer Museum announced today that the Los Angeles biennial *Made in L.A. 2016* will be co-curated by Hammer curator **Aram Moshayedi** and **Hamza Walker** from the Renaissance Society in Chicago.

*Made in L.A. 2016* will be the third in an ongoing series of exhibitions focused on artwork created in the Los Angeles region and will be on view **June through September 2016**. The artist list will be announced in early 2016.

“Following the successes of our first two installments of *Made in L.A.*, we are delighted to announce our curatorial team for 2016—our own Hammer curator Aram Moshayedi and Chicago-based Hamza Walker—bringing together rich regional and national perspectives to the next biennial,” remarked Hammer Director Ann Philbin. “We are thrilled to be working with them and looking forward to the summer of 2016.”

The Mohn Awards will also be presented in conjunction with *Made in L.A. 2016*. Funded through the generosity of Los Angeles philanthropists and art collectors Jarl and Pamela Mohn, the three awards are The Mohn Award, the Career Achievement Award—both of which will be selected by a professional jury—and the Public Recognition Award, which will be determined through a public vote.

### ABOUT THE CURATORS



**Aram Moshayedi** joined the Hammer Museum as Curator in July 2013 and has organized exhibitions from the Hammer Contemporary Collection focused on the work of Pentti Monkkonen, Hirsch Perlman, and Fischli/Weiss, as well as *Hammer Projects: Mario Garcia Torres*. His forthcoming Hammer Projects in 2015 include new works by Maria Hassabi, Avery Singer, and Simon Denny, and he is currently organizing a three-day exhibition focused on the creative work of artist bands, sound artists, and music collectives. He served as the associate curator of the Gallery at REDCAT from 2010–2013, overseeing the production and exhibition of new works by The Otolith Group, Slavs and Tatars, Jordan Wolfson, Tony Cokes, Jay Chung & Q Takeki Maeda, Ming Wong, Erlea Maneros Zabala, and Geoffrey Farmer. He was also the co-organizer with Thomas Lawson and Stacey Allan of *The*

*Experimental Impulse*, an exhibition and digital publication produced for the Getty Foundation’s citywide Pacific Standard Time initiative and served as an assistant curator on the 2008 California Biennial at the Orange County Museum of Art in Newport Beach. Moshayedi’s writings on art have been published in numerous exhibition catalogs and such publications as *Artforum*, *Art in America*, *Frieze*, *X-TRA Contemporary Art Quarterly*, and *Bidoun*, for which he is also a contributing editor.



**Hamza Walker** has been Director of Education and Associate Curator for the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago since 1994. He will take a leave of absence from this position for two years from February 2015 to focus on *Made in L.A. 2016*. Recent exhibitions include *Teen Paranormal Romance* (2014), *Suicide Narcissus* (2013), and *John Neff* (2013). He is the recipient of the 1999 Norton Curatorial Grant and the 2004 Walter Hopps Award for Curatorial Achievement. In 2010 he was awarded the Ordway Prize for contributions to the field in the form of writing and exhibitions. Walker has contributed reviews and art criticism to *New Art Examiner*, *Art Muscle*, *Dialogue*, *Parkett*, and *Artforum* in addition to numerous catalogue essays on artists ranging from Heimo Zobering to Raymond Pettibon.

### **ABOUT MADE IN L.A.**

The Hammer's biennial exhibition series *Made in L.A.* focuses exclusively on artists from the L.A. region with an emphasis on emerging and under-recognized artists. The Los Angeles biennial debuts new installations, videos, films, sculptures, performances, and paintings commissioned specifically for the exhibition and offers a snapshot of the current trends and practices coming out of Los Angeles, one of the most active and energetic art communities in the world. *Made in L.A.* began in 2012 with a second iteration in 2014, and followed the tradition of the Hammer Invitational exhibitions, which occurred every two years and included *Snapshot* (2001), *International Paper* (2003), *Thing* (2005), *Eden's Edge* (2007), *Nine Lives* (2009), and *All of this and nothing* (2011).

*Made in L.A. 2012* was organized by a team of curators from the Hammer Museum and LA><ART: Hammer Senior Curator Anne Ellegood, Hammer Curator Ali Subotnick, LA><ART Director and Chief Curator Lauri Firstenberg, LA><ART Associate Director and Senior Curator Cesar Garcia, and LA><ART Curator-at-large Malik Gaines.

*Made in L.A. 2014* was co-curated by Hammer Chief Curator Connie Butler and Los Angeles based independent curator Michael Ned Holte.

*Made in L.A.* is presented by Wells Fargo.

### **ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM**

The Hammer Museum at UCLA believes in the promise of art and ideas to illuminate lives and build a just world. Free to the public, the museum's collections, exhibitions, and programs span the classic to the contemporary in art, architecture, and design. As a cultural center, the Hammer Museum offers nearly 300 free public programs a year, including lectures, readings, symposia, film screenings, and music performances at the Billy Wilder Theater which also houses the UCLA Film & Television Archive. The Hammer's international exhibition program focuses on wide-ranging thematic and monographic exhibitions, highlighting contemporary art since the 1960s and the work of emerging artists through Hammer Projects and the Hammer's biennial, *Made in L.A.* The Hammer is home of the Armand Hammer Collection of American and European paintings, as well as the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection and the Hammer Contemporary Collection. The Hammer Contemporary Collection focuses on art of all media since 1960 with an emphasis on works of the last ten years, works on paper, and art made in Los Angeles. The museum also houses the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts—comprising more than 45,000 prints, drawings, photographs, and artists' books from the Renaissance to the present—and oversees the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden at UCLA.

**HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION**

Admission to all exhibitions and programs at the Hammer Museum is free and open to the public.

Visit [www.hammer.ucla.edu](http://www.hammer.ucla.edu) for current exhibition and program information and call 310-443-7041 for tours.

Hours: Tuesday–Friday 11am–8pm, Saturday & Sunday 11am–5pm. Closed Mondays and national holidays. The Hammer is located at 10899 Wilshire Boulevard in Westwood, Los Angeles. Parking is available onsite for \$3 (maximum 3 hours) or for a \$3 flat rate after 6pm.