

GARY GARRELS

CHIEF CURATOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS,
HAMMER MUSEUM

Gary Garrels joined the Hammer Museum as Senior Curator in June 2005 and was promoted to Chief Curator and Deputy Director of Exhibitions and Public Programs in January 2007. At the Hammer, he is actively involved in the development of new exhibitions and the shaping of the Museum's Hammer Contemporary Collection. He is currently coordinating a project with Doris Salcedo, an artist from Bogotá, Columbia; organizing the recent acquisitions exhibition of the Hammer Contemporary Collection; and organizing *Eden's Edge: Fifteen LA Artists*.

Garrels has a long-standing commitment to contemporary and emerging artists. During his tenure as chief curator of the Department of Drawings and Curator of the Department of Painting and Sculpture at The Museum of Modern Art, New York (2000-05), he organized *Roth Time: A Dieter Roth Retrospective*, which won the AICA (International Association of Art Critics) award as best monographic exhibition in New York in 2004. He was a member of the curatorial committee for *MoMA at El Museo: Latin American and Caribbean Art from the Collection of The Museum of Modern Art*, exhibited at El Museo del Barrio in 2004. He recently organized the major exhibition of *Brice Marden: A Retrospective of Paintings and Drawings* that opened at MoMA in October 2006 which is currently showing at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art through May 13, 2007 and will travel to the Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin in June 2007.

Garrels's previous appointments include Chief Curator of Painting and Sculpture at San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (1993-2000), Senior Curator at Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (1991-1993), Director of Programs at Dia Art Foundation, New York (1987-1991). Among his exhibitions for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art are *Sol LeWitt: A Retrospective*; *Willem de Kooning, The Late Paintings, The 1980s*; *Inside Out: New Chinese Art* (with the Asia Society, New York); *Present Tense: Nine Artists in the Nineties*; and projects with Richard Hamilton, Glenn Ligon, Steven Pippin, Doris Salcedo, Kara Walker, and Andrea Zittel. At the Walker Art Center, Garrels organized the acclaimed exhibition *Photography in Contemporary German Art: 1960 to the Present*, which traveled to many notable venues in the United States and Europe.

Gary Garrels is very familiar with international artists working in all media, and has championed many Los Angeles-based artists by exhibiting and acquiring their works at his previous appointments. While at the Museum of Modern Art, he acquired works on paper by Ingrid Calame, Paul McCarthy, Lee Mullican, Robert Overby, Laura Owens, Raymond Pettibon, Lari Pittman, Nancy Rubins, Jim Shaw, among many others.

Garrels received his M.A. in Art History from Boston University, and previously studied in Princeton University's Doctoral Program for Sociology. He has written and lectured extensively about contemporary art and has been engaged in a wide range of professional activities, including acting as an advisor to several major art foundations and arts organizations. Currently he is on the Advisory Committee for the Bard College Center for Curatorial Studies; the Museum Advisory Committee for the Asia Society, New York; and the Board of Trustees of the Merce Cunningham Foundation.