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The Hammer Museum Presents
Provocations: The Architecture and Design of Heatherwick Studio
On view February 20 – May 24, 2015



(Los Angeles, CA)—This February, the Hammer Museum will present the West Coast debut of *Provocations: The Architecture and Design of Heatherwick Studio*, featuring the imaginative work of British designer Thomas Heatherwick and his London-based studio. Heatherwick is known for his unique design concepts ranging from products, such as a handbag for Longchamp, to large-scale structures like the new distillery for Bombay Sapphire Gin.

On view at the Hammer from **February 20 to May 24, 2015**, *Provocations* will feature a selection of Heatherwick Studio's projects through the display of prototypes, large-scale models, objects, photographs, and film and video footage.

"*Provocations* is an extraordinary exhibition that brings the talent and versatility of Heatherwick Studio to the audiences of Los Angeles," remarks Hammer director Ann Philbin. "This exhibition will be an eye-opener for many visitors at the Hammer who are able to take a close look at the British designer's creative process and remarkable products and buildings."

Heatherwick Studio, established in 1994, is recognized for its highly inventive approach to everyday design challenges, frequently combining novel engineering with new materials and innovative technology to create unusual, often sculptural, building forms. The project that first garnered Heatherwick international recognition was the Rolling Bridge which crosses London's Grand Union Canal near Paddington Station. Asked to design a bridge to span the small channel through which boats pass, Heatherwick acknowledged that most drawbridges are unattractive when raised. His solution was to create an eight-part section of the bridge using hydraulic pistons that eliminated the need for visible cables and piers. The bridge's unique motion, which rolls up into a circular snail-like form, continues to attract crowds and won the 2005 British Structural Steel Award.

Thomas Heatherwick, born in 1970, has received international acclaim in the design and architecture community resulting in numerous accolades for his innovative work. Named an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, RIBA, Heatherwick has been awarded the Prince Philip Designers Prize, was appointed a Royal Designer for Industry and received the RIBA's Lubetkin Prize, the London Design Medal, and a CBE for his contribution to the design industry.

Images (left to right): *New Bus for London*, 2010–2012. Courtesy of Heatherwick Studio. Photo: © Iwan Baan; *UK Pavilion, Shanghai World Expo*, 2007–2010. Courtesy of Heatherwick Studio. Photo: © Iwan Baan; *Garden Bridge*, London, 2012–. Courtesy of Heatherwick Studio. Rendering: © Arup.

"I've followed Thomas Heatherwick's work since 2003 and I believe he is one of the most brilliant designers of our time. In fact, I share the opinion expressed by his mentor, fellow British designer Sir Terence Conran, who has called him 'the Leonardo da Vinci of our times' for his complex ideas and keen sense of construction," said exhibition curator **Brooke Hodge**. "I am thrilled that the Hammer has the opportunity to present Heatherwick's ideas and designs to Los Angeles through this unique exhibition."

This exhibition examines the astonishing range of Heatherwick Studio's practice by focusing on the design concepts behind early creations such as the rotation-molded "Spun" chairs as well as current large public and private architectural work in the U.K., South Africa, Abu Dhabi, Singapore, and China. Included will be such projects as the U.K. Pavilion— known as the Seed Cathedral—at the 2010 World Expo; a Learning Hub for Nanyang Technological University; and a contemporary art museum created within a grain silo.

Among Heatherwick Studio's latest high-visibility designs that will be on view as part of the Hammer installation are the **2012 redesign of London's double decker buses**, known as the New Routemaster, and the cauldron for the internationally televised ceremonial lighting of the London 2012 Olympic Games torch.

Provocations: The Architecture and Design of Heatherwick Studio is organized by the Nasher Sculpture Center and guest curator Brooke Hodge. The Hammer's presentation is overseen by Aram Moshayedi, curator. Organized by the Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, *Provocations* is curated by Brooke Hodge, deputy director of Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. The Hammer's presentation is overseen by curator Aram Moshayedi.

The Hammer Museum's presentation is made possible in partnership with Burberry. Additional support is provided by Lewis Baskerville and Ronnie Sassoon. Media sponsorship is provided by KCRW 89.9FM. Special thanks to Herman Miller.

Provocations is currently on view at the Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas through January 4 and travels to the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in New York after the Hammer from June 21 to October 25, 2015.

ABOUT BROOKE HODGE

Brooke Hodge is Deputy Director at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in New York City. From 2010-July 2014 she was Director of Exhibitions Management and Publications at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles and from 2001 to 2009 she was Curator of Architecture and Design at The Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, where she organized major exhibitions on the work of architect Frank Gehry and car designer J Mays, as well as *Skin + Bones: Parallel Practices in Fashion and Architecture*, a groundbreaking thematic exhibition that examined the relationship between contemporary fashion and architecture. Accompanied by a full-color scholarly catalogue, co-published by Thames and Hudson, *Skin + Bones* opened in Los Angeles in 2006 and traveled to museums in Tokyo and London. From 1991-2001, Hodge was Director of Exhibitions and Publications at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, where she also held the positions of Adjunct Curator of Architecture at the Fogg Art Museum and Assistant Dean of Arts Programs at the Graduate School of Design. At Harvard, she organized numerous exhibitions of the work of architects and designers, including Gio Ponti, Zaha Hadid, theater designer and artist Robert Wilson, and fashion designer Rei Kawakubo/Comme des Garçons, among others. Holding a master's degree in architectural history from the University of Virginia, Hodge has written extensively about art, design, and architecture for *The New York Times T Magazine*, as well as for other journals including *Wallpaper**, *Metropolis*, *Pin-Up*, and *Cultured*.

ABOUT ARAM MOSHAYEDI

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.

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 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.

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