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**Hammer Museum Curator Aram Moshayedi Awarded Grant from
The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts
Moshayedi will research emerging artists in the Middle East and North Africa**

Los Angeles—The Hammer Museum is pleased to announce that Hammer curator **Aram Moshayedi** has received a curatorial fellowship from **The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts** to support a year-long research project focused on emerging artists and artist-run initiatives in the Middle East and North Africa. By cataloging this research in the form of video and audio interviews, Moshayedi hopes to create a document that will develop greater insights into the understanding of the infrastructures and contemporary art practices throughout the region. The project sets out to emphasize independently run exhibition spaces, alternative schools, archives, and libraries which support the kinds of experimental practices that have been reflected by the Hammer Museum's ongoing *Hammer Projects* series. Deepening Moshayedi's curatorial research and facilitating a sustained and meaningful connection between Los Angeles and the critically engaged artists working throughout the Greater Middle East region, the project will depend on site visits to artist studios and such arts organizations as Ashkal Alwan, The Lebanese Association for Plastic Arts, Beirut, Lebanon; KAF, Tehran, Iran; Decolonizing Architecture Art Residency (DAAR), Beit Sahour, Palestine; Beirut and Townhouse Gallery, Cairo, Egypt; and BAS – Istanbul Art Research Association and SALT, Istanbul, Turkey.

The Warhol Foundation's curatorial fellowship program, launched in 2008, aims to encourage curatorial research leading to new scholarship in the field of contemporary art. Grants are designed to support travel, archival research, convening of colleagues, interviews and time to write.

BIOGRAPHY



Photo by Rinzi Ruiz.

Hammer Curator Aram Moshayedi joined the Museum in July 2013 and has organized two solo presentations from the Hammer Contemporary Collection featuring works by Los Angeles-based artists Pentti Monkkonen and Hirsch Perlman. Previously he served as the associate curator of the Gallery at The Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater (REDCAT), where he organized exhibitions and oversaw the production of new works by artists The Otolith Group, Slavs and Tatars, Jordan Wolfson, Tony Cokes, Jay Chung & Q Takeki Maeda, Ming Wong, and Geoffrey Farmer. Prior to that, he was a curator at LA><ART in Los Angeles. Moshayedi has written extensively on art and film/video in numerous publications including *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—a public arts unit of the University of California, Los Angeles—is dedicated to exploring the diversity of artistic expression through the ages. Its collections, exhibitions, and programs span the classic to the cutting-edge in art, architecture, and design, recognizing that artists play a crucial role in all aspects of culture and society.

The museum houses the Armand Hammer Collection of old master, impressionist, and postimpressionist paintings and the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection. 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 management of the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden on the UCLA campus. The Hammer's newest collection, the Hammer Contemporary Collection, is highlighted by works by artists such as Lari Pittman, Kara Walker, Ed Ruscha, Barbara Kruger, Mark Bradford, Richard Hawkins, and Llyn Foulkes, among many others.

The Hammer presents major single-artist and thematic exhibitions of historical and contemporary art. It also presents approximately ten Hammer Projects exhibitions each year, providing international and local artists with a laboratory-like environment to create new work or to present existing work in a new context.

As a cultural center, the Hammer offers a diverse array of free public programs throughout the year, including lectures, readings, symposia, film screenings, and music performances. These widely acclaimed public programs are presented in the Hammer's Billy Wilder Theater, which is also the home of the UCLA Film & Television Archive's renowned cinemathèque.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

For current program and exhibition information, call 310-443-7000 or visit www.hammer.ucla.edu.

Hours: Tuesday–Friday 11am–8pm; Saturday & Sunday 11am–5pm; closed Mondays, July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Admission: **FREE FOR ALL VISITORS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 9, 2014.** Currently: \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65+) and UCLA Alumni Association members; free for museum members, students with identification, UCLA faculty/staff, military personnel, veterans, and visitors 17 and under. The museum is free on Thursdays for all visitors. Public programs are always free.

Location/Parking: The Hammer is located at 10899 Wilshire Boulevard, at Westwood Boulevard. Parking is available under the Museum. Rate is \$3 for three hours with museum validation. Bicycles park free.