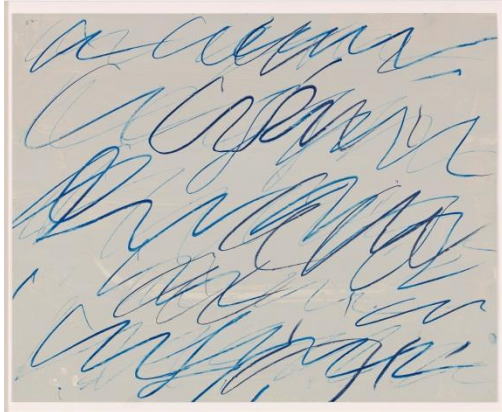


For Immediate Release: February 14, 2012

Contact: Morgan Kroll, Public Relations Associate 310-443-7016, mkroll@hammer.ucla.edu

INTIMATE IMMENSITY: THE SUSAN AND LARRY MARX COLLECTION

Exhibition of promised gift features work by
Pollock, de Kooning, Hesse, and Warhol on view
at the Hammer Museum through May 6, 2012



Left-right: Cy Twombly. *Untitled (Roman Note)*, 1970. Oil pant, wax crayon, and pencil. 27½ x 34 3/8 (69.9 x 87.3 cm). Hammer Museum, Los Angeles. Promised gift of Susan and Larry Marx. © Cy Twombly Foundation. Photograph by Jason Dewey. Mark Bradford. *Smite*, 2007. Mixed-media collage on canvas. 72 x 84 in. (182.9 x 213.4 cm). Hammer Museum, Los Angeles. Promised gift of Susan and Larry Marx. ©Mark Bradford. Image courtesy Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York.

Los Angeles—*Intimate Immensity: The Susan and Larry Marx Collection*, on view through May 6, 2012, is the first public presentation of a selection from the extraordinary gift that longtime supporters Susan and Larry Marx pledged to the Hammer in 2007. The collection is made up primarily of works on paper but also includes paintings and sculpture. Featuring more than 150 works by 109 artists from the post-World War II period, it is valued in excess of thirty million dollars and includes exemplary works by seminal artists such as **Willem de Kooning, Eva Hesse, Joan Mitchell, Jackson Pollock, Agnes Martin, and Cy Twombly**. The Marx Collection also compliments the Hammer Contemporary Collection very well with exciting works by artists like **Mark Bradford, Mark Grotjahn, and Mary Heilmann**.

“This extraordinary exhibition illustrates the depth of the passion Susan and Larry bring to collecting. Their passion is matched only by their generosity. These works will certainly serve as the cornerstone of the Hammer Contemporary Collection,” remarks Hammer Director Ann Philbin. “It is not only a gift to the Hammer but also to Los Angeles, and sets the tone and ambition of our future collecting activities.”

This selection of nearly 100 works by 48 artists from the Marx Collection begins with a group of major works on paper and canvas by a number of artists associated with abstract expressionism, including de Kooning, Pollock, Joan Mitchell, Ad Reinhardt, and Mark Tobey. Marked by a significant number of important drawings, the collection nicely compliments the Grunwald Center’s deep catalogue of works on paper. If the Marx Collection finds its grounding in abstract expressionism, this selection of works on view shows how it continues to branch

out into an exploration of the morphing of the line from an abstract gesture into more concrete concerns with geometry (Ellsworth Kelly and Blinky Palermo), compulsive repetition (Kusama), and resolving a series of seemingly wild lines into quasi-figurative forms (Eva Hesse and Sigmar Polke). The collection then takes a turn into the world of conceptual art with prime examples from Mel Bochner and Sol LeWitt. The hard-edge lines of conceptual art then give way to a wide range of other artistic concerns, with a more lyrical and expressive movement of lines across the surface in works by artists such as Brice Marden and Cy Twombly, the pop-like resolution of the line into typography in the work of Ed Ruscha, and the continuing battle of the line with itself in a dance of abstraction and figuration in the work of younger artists such as Mark Bradford, Sergej Jensen, and Rachel Whiteread.

ARTISTS IN THE EXHIBITION

Mel Bochner, Mark Bradford, Vija Celmins, John Currin, Willem de Kooning, Jay DeFeo, Peter Doig, Carroll Dunham, Sam Francis, Arshile Gorky, Mark Grotjahn, Philip Guston, Mary Heilmann, Robert Heinecken, Eva Hesse, David Hockney, Roni Horn, Sergej Jensen, Jasper Johns, Alex Katz, Ellsworth Kelly, Franz Kline, Yayoi Kusama, Liz Larner, Sol LeWitt, Lee Lozano, Brice Marden, John McLaughlin, Joan Mitchell, Lee Mullican, Bruce Nauman, Claes Oldenburg, Blinky Palermo, Sigmar Polke, Jackson Pollock, Charles Ray, Ad Reinhardt, Ed Ruscha, Robert Ryman, Alan Saret, Mira Schendel, David Smith, Nancy Spero, Atsuko Tanaka, Paul Thek, Mark Tobey, Cy Twombly, Andy Warhol, and Rachel Whiteread

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 Post-Impressionist paintings and the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection. The Hammer's newest collection, the Hammer Contemporary Collection, is highlighted by works on paper, particularly drawings and photographs from Southern California. 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 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 range of free public programs throughout the year, including lectures, readings, symposia, film screenings, and music performances. The Hammer's Billy Wilder Theater houses these widely acclaimed public programs and is the new home of the UCLA Film & Television Archive's renowned cinematheque.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

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

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 11am – 7pm; Thursday, 11am – 9 pm; Sunday, 11am – 5 pm; closed Mondays, July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Admission: \$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.

Hammer Museum Tours: For group tour reservations and information, call 310-443-7041.