

For Immediate Release: January 5, 2009

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Paul Klee. *Die Hexe mit dem Kamm* (The Witch with the Comb), 1922. Lithograph. Collection UCLA Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Hammer Museum. Gift of Mrs. Saidee Grunwald. Photo by Robert Wedemeyer



Alexander Voet II After Jacob Jordaens. *The Elderly Fool and His Cat*, 17th century engraving and etching. Collection UCLA Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Hammer Museum. Purchase. Photo by Robert Wedemeyer.



Francisco José de Goya y Lucientes. *Aguarda que te unten* (Wait until you are greased), Number 67, 1799. Etching. Collection UCLA Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Hammer Museum. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Howard Klingstein. Photo by Robert Wedemeyer.

HOUSEGUEST: GABBIANI

SERIES INVITES ARTISTS TO CURATE FROM THE COLLECTIONS

On view February 15 – May 24, 2009

Los Angeles, CA – The Hammer Museum presents the second exhibition of *Houseguest*, a new series in which artists are invited to curate a show from among the Museum's diverse collections. For this exhibition, Los Angeles-based artist **Francesca Gabbiani** explores the subjects of witchcraft and sorcery, themes that are often subtly evoked in her own work. She browsed through the collections of the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts at the Hammer Museum, and UCLA's Departments of Special Collections at both the Charles E. Young Research Library and the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library. Gabbiani pursued her research with an eye for mysterious and macabre images, illustrations of poisonous and deadly plants, as well as representations of unearthly figures like fairies and elves. The eclectic selection of prints and illustrated books range in date from the Renaissance to the present. In this installation, Gabbiani proposes a personal and intriguing exploration of mystical powers and magical spells.

Francesca Gabbiani was born in 1965 in Montreal, Canada. In 1969, her family moved to Switzerland, and in 1992 she graduated from the Ecole Supérieure des Beaux Arts in Geneva. She studied at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten in Amsterdam from 1993 to 1994, and received her M.F.A. in 1997 from the University of California, Los Angeles. Gabbiani's work has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in Los Angeles, the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, NY, the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Geneva (MAMCO), among other venues, and in 1991 she was part of the Hammer Project series. She recently had solo exhibitions at Patrick Painter Inc in Santa Monica, Lora Reynolds Gallery in Austin, Monica de Cardenas in Zuoz, Switzerland, and Sara Meltzer Gallery in New York. Gabbiani currently lives and works in Los Angeles.

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.

Founded by Dr. Armand Hammer in 1990, the museum houses the Armand Hammer Collection of Old Master, Impressionist, and Post-Impressionist paintings and the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection. Associated UCLA collections include 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 the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden on the UCLA campus. The Hammer's newest collection, the Hammer Contemporary Collection, is led by works on paper, particularly drawings and photographs from 1960 to the present.

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: \$7 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65+) and UCLA Alumni Association members; free for Museum members, students with identification, UCLA faculty/staff, and visitors 17 and under. The Museum is free for everyone on Thursdays.

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.

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