

**NEW**  
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**NEW MUSEUM'S "MUSEUM AS HUB: SIX DEGREES" EXHIBITION WILL PRESENT  
ONGOING AND NEWLY COMMISSIONED WORKS IN MUSEUM AND SURROUNDING  
LOWER EAST SIDE COMMUNITY**

New York, NY...The **New Museum** is pleased to announce the opening of "**Museum as Hub: Six Degrees**," the New Museum's exhibition for the **Museum as Hub** international collaboration. "Six Degrees" refers to the angle of Bowery Street off New York City's grid—a way of considering the uniqueness of downtown and the vibrant community of cultural producers that has historically marked the Bowery and Lower East Side. The exhibition engages the neighborhood by employing nearby buildings as canvases, local artists as collaborators, and New Museum territory as a meeting place, recital hall, and laboratory. Expanding the concept of how an exhibition is defined, "Museum as Hub: Six Degrees" includes projects that begin before the exhibition period and reverberate beyond the temporal and physical confines of the exhibition space to rethink how a contemporary art museum can support and present artistic practices.

Curated by Eungie Joo, the New Museum's Keith Haring Director and Curator of Education and Public Programs, the exhibition is on view from September 25, 2008, through January 11, 2009.

The project begins with **Night School**, an ongoing seminar series organized by artist **Anton Vidokle** that features artists, writers, and curators in conversation with the public over the course of a year. "Six Degrees" continues with new Night School seminars, as well as ongoing and newly commissioned work by New York-based artists **Lisa Sigal**, **Martha Rosler**, **Dave McKenzie**, **Ginger Brooks Takahashi**, and California-based collective **My Barbarian** (Malik Gaines, Jade Gordon, and Alexandro Segade).

**Lisa Sigal's** *Line-up* began as a proposal to paint a gesture into the surroundings of the New Museum. Looking out the window of the New Museum's fifth-floor Resource Center, Sigal chose a color in the surrounding landscape, taking inspiration from the seafoam green bicycle lane (on Prince Street). A metaphor for the effects of the New Museum on its new neighborhood, Sigal

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imagines the line continuing into the horizon and beyond. In the realization of this project in New York, Sigal worked with individuals and organizations, depending upon their cooperation, counsel, and support to shape the final project. Inspired by the Museum as Hub project, Sigal also worked with artists Essam Abdallah (Cairo), Erwin van Doorn (Eindhoven), Paulina Lasar (Mexico City), and Sangdon Kim (Seoul)—each involved with Museum as Hub partner projects—to continue the line around the world. Photographs document each artist's interpretation of Sigal's request in the context of his or her city, the angle of the line alluding to the next appearance of Sigal's line in its global circumnavigation.

**Dave McKenzie** presents three works; *On Location, I'll Be There*, and *Postcards From*, each situating the artist as wanderer, citizen, loiterer, and observer, confronting themes of presence and dislocation as he interacts with community members in the Lower East Side and beyond. In *I'll Be There*, McKenzie commits to multiple appointments throughout the neighborhood with no one in particular. Visitors are invited to "keep" the appointment, and join McKenzie at various locations throughout the course of the exhibition. A schedule of these "appointments" will be posted on [museumashub.org](http://museumashub.org).

**Martha Rosler's** 1974–75 work, *The Bowery in two inadequate descriptive systems*, was presented in "Museum as Hub: An Introduction" (Dec 2007-Feb 2008), the first exhibition in the Museum as Hub space. Rosler's engagement with the neighborhood has continued over the past three decades, and she frequently revisits the sites documented in the work as a measure of the changing neighborhood. For "Six Degrees," Rosler has created *Bowery High Lights*—hundreds of present day photographs of the Bowery neighborhood that record this moment in time and recall the Bowery's ever-changing struggle and relevance in New York City. The project will be presented as a two-channel slideshow with accompanying text. **Ginger Brooks Takahashi's** quilting forums or "Powerstitches" employ traditional craft to de-formalize the exhibition space by transforming it into a productive community space. The ongoing project, *an army of lovers cannot fail*, uses its "harmless" motif of rabbits engaged in acts of sexual and physical play both as an object of work documenting a community-effort, and commentary on privilege, sex, and society. Several "Powerstiches" will be scheduled throughout the run of the exhibition. Also on view will be *Post-Living Ante Action Theater (PoLAAT): Post-Paradise, Sorry Again*, a single-channel video installation documenting the recent two-week residency of the Post-Living Ante-Action Theater (PoLAAT), created by the artist collective **My Barbarian**. The group transformed the New Museum theater into an active performance studio to explore theatrical works, collectivity, and countercultural movements as stagings of liberation.

"Six Degrees" will also include a station with video documentation of past **Night School** seminars leading up to the exhibition and recommended texts by seminar leaders **Boris Groys, Martha Rosler, Liam Gillick, Okwui Enwezor, Hu Fang and Zhang Wei, Maria Lind, and**

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**Paul Chan.** Begun in the winter of 2008, Night School is an integral part of the New Museum's presentation and is an ongoing seminar series organized by Anton Vidokle that features artists, writers, and curators in conversation with the public over the course of the year. Coinciding with the opening day of "Six Degrees" on September 25, artist **Rirkrit Tiravanija** will present a seminar. Subsequent presentations by **Natascha Sadr Haghighian**, **Walid Raad** and **Jalal Toufic**, and **Raqs Media Collective** will take place during the course of the exhibition.

#### **EXHIBITION-RELATED PROGRAMING**

##### **All-day POWERSTITCH with Ginger Brooks Takahashi**

Thursday, October 16, 12–7 p.m., Museum as Hub, 5<sup>th</sup> floor

Please bring some text to read aloud to share with other quilters as well as your favorite sewing accoutrement: thimble, needle, etc. Quilting direction and supplies will be provided.

##### **Artist talk: Ginger Brooks Takahashi, Dave McKenzie, and Lisa Sigal in conversation with curator Eungie Joo**

Saturday, October 18, 3 p.m., New Museum theater

##### **Full Moon POWERSTITCH with Ginger Brooks Takahashi**

Thursday, November 13, 12–7 p.m., Museum as Hub, 5<sup>th</sup> floor

As this POWERSTITCH is taking place on the full moon, please bring a text, story or poem to honor this event. Quilting direction and supplies will be provided.

##### **Artist talk: Martha Rosler and Anton Vidokle in conversation**

Thursday, November 6, 7:30 p.m., New Museum theater

##### **Thursday Night Reading Group and Conversation Series**

Thursdays, October–December, biweekly, Classroom, 5<sup>th</sup> floor

Six informal biweekly discussions, presentations, and screenings led by Museum as Hub Fellow Sabrina Locks, with invited guests. The series investigates topics in recent art practices: education and activism, contemporary spaces of creative production, and new curatorial research. See [museumashub.org](http://museumashub.org) for specific dates and times.

##### **Election Night '08 at Salon Aleman**

Tuesday, November 4, 7–10 p.m. New Museum theater

Eduardo Sarabia presents Salon Aleman, featuring Tequila Sarabia. Join us for live coverage of election night and test your knowledge of the facts in a round of campaign quizzo.

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**Archives in Practice: A Conversation with Julie Ault**

December 2008, TBA, New Museum theater

This program looks at recent artistic and curatorial initiatives that explore archives as the basis for creative research and production and considers how conceptual and material explorations of the archive utilize and implement ephemeral knowledge in the practice of history-making.

Moderated by Museum as Hub Fellow Sabina Locks.

**ABOUT MUSEUM AS HUB**

Museum as Hub is a new model for curatorial practice and institutional collaboration established to enhance a greater understanding of contemporary art, and is the cornerstone of the New Museum's public programs and the fifth floor Education Center. The Museum as Hub partnership was initiated by the New Museum in 2006, and includes the Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporáneo (Mexico City, Mexico); Insa Art Space, (Seoul, Korea); the Townhouse Gallery of Contemporary Art (Cairo, Egypt); and the Van Abbemuseum (Eindhoven, The Netherlands).

**ABOUT NEW MUSEUM**

Founded in 1977, the New Museum is Manhattan's only dedicated contemporary art museum and among the most respected internationally, with a curatorial program known for its global scope and adventurousness. With the inauguration of our new, state-of-the-art building on the Bowery, the New Museum is a leading destination for new art and new ideas.

**SUPPORT FOR MUSEUM AS HUB**

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