NEW MUSEUM ANNOUNCES NAMES OF FIFTY INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS FOR FIRST EDITION OF “THE GENERATIONAL” a signature triennial exhibition “The Generational: Younger Than Jesus” Opens April 8 on the Bowery

NEW YORK, NY—The New Museum today announced the names of fifty artists from twenty-five countries who will be presented in the first edition of “The Generational,” the institution’s new signature triennial exhibition. The only exhibition of its kind in the United States, “The Generational: Younger Than Jesus” will offer a rich, intricate, multidisciplinary exploration of the work being produced by a new generation of artists born after 1976. Known to demographers, marketers, sociologists, and pundits variously as the Millennials, Generation Y, iGeneration, and Generation Me, this age group has yet to be described in any way beyond their habits of consumption. “Younger Than Jesus” will begin to examine the visual culture this generation has created to date.

Inspired by the fact that some of the most influential and enduring gestures in art and history have been made by young people in the early stages of their lives, “Younger Than Jesus” will fill the entire New Museum’s building on the Bowery with approximately 145 works by artists all of whom are under the age of thirty-three years old.
Hailing from countries including Algeria, China, Colombia, Germany, India, Lebanon, Poland, Turkey, and Venezuela, many are showing in a museum for the first time. The exhibition will span mediums and encompass painting, drawing, photography, film, animation, performance, installation, dance, Internet-based works, and video games. “The Generational: Younger than Jesus” will be on view from April 8 through June 14, 2009. Major support for the exhibition has been provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation.

Consistent with the New Museum’s thirty-year mission to present new art and new ideas, “The Generational: Younger Than Jesus” will be the first major international museum exhibition devoted exclusively to the generation born around 1980, tapping into the different perspectives, shared preoccupations, and experiences of a constituency that is shaping the contemporary art discourse and prescribing the future of global culture. In the United States, this demographic group is the largest generation to emerge since the Baby Boomers, while in India half the population is less than twenty-five years old; the sheer size of this generation ensures its worldwide influence. By bringing together a wide variety of artists and contextualizing their different approaches, “Younger Than Jesus” will capture the signals of an imminent change, identify stylistic trends that are emerging among a diverse group of creators, and provide the general public with a first in-depth look at how the next generation conceives of our world. Revealing new languages and attitudes, the exhibition will comprise a portrait of the agents of change at the beginning of the twenty-first century.

The exhibition is organized by Lauren Cornell, Director of Rhizome and New Museum Adjunct Curator; Massimiliano Gioni, Director of Special Exhibitions; and Laura Hoptman, Kraus Family Senior Curator.

“The New Museum has always been a platform for the new,” comments Lisa Phillips, Toby Devan Lewis Director. “We have given important early exposure to artists at the beginning of their careers, from Keith Haring to Adrian Piper, and Ana Mendieta to Jeff Koons—artists who subsequently changed the course of art. ‘Younger Than Jesus’ continues the New Museum’s tradition and mission of showing the art of tomorrow today.”

“The artists in ‘Younger Than Jesus’ reflect a preoccupation with our future, but also with history and tradition: Rather than foreshewing their parents, they seem interested in imagining new communities and alternative families,” says Massimiliano Gioni. “Their tactics range from role-playing to recycling, from identity tourism to technological archeology, from an hysterical form of realism to an intimate, micro-emotional art.”
According to Lauren Cornell, “The exhibition presents glimpses of a generation that is incredibly diverse, with artists moving seamlessly across mediums. Instead of radically breaking from the past, these artists draw from a myriad of influences across historical movements and geographies to highlight the intergenerational dynamics that drive contemporary art.”

“During World War II, both Pablo Picasso and Giorgio Morandi were painting still lifes,” explains Laura Hoptman. “Two artists, belonging to the same generation, were imagining two absolutely different realities emerging from a chaos that encompassed the entire world. We hope that ‘Younger Than Jesus’ will offer a look at our world as reflected through the work of many artists belonging to the same time and yet representing entirely different perspectives on its problems and its beauties.”

INFORMANTS WORLDWIDE
Artists were selected for “Younger Than Jesus” through an open curatorial model that is participatory, and inspired by the networking proclivities of the generation represented in the show. Initial research for the exhibition was conducted through an international network of correspondents and an information-sharing group of more than 150 curators, writers, teachers, artists, critics, and bloggers worldwide, who were asked to recommend artists for the exhibition. This methodology was intended to expand the curatorial process and challenge the traditional “single-source” method of creating an exhibition. Through this process, more than 500 artists were recommended and researched.

PUBLICATIONS
Biographical information and images from the over 500 artists who were submitted for consideration for the exhibition by the global network of informants will be included in the publication Younger Than Jesus: The Artist Directory, co-published by the New Museum and Phaidon. The publication will serve as an informal census of the artists from this generation, and will expand the exhibition with this additional platform.

The exhibition catalogue, Younger Than Jesus: The Generation Book, co-published by the New Museum and Steidl, will include reproductions of the work of the fifty artists chosen for the exhibition, as well as original essays by the exhibition curators, and an anthology of articles by a diverse group of writers including philosophers, sociologists, journalists, activists, and marketing and technology experts. It is intended to compose a complex picture of the art and preoccupations that animate the work of this emerging generation.
LIVE ARCHIVE
The New Museum’s fifth-floor Museum as Hub space will serve as the live archive of “The Generational: Younger Than Jesus.” Organized by freelance critic Brian Sholis, the space will serve as a research platform, discussion venue, and repository of international periodicals, films, and music created by or documenting this generation. Materials will be gathered from diverse sources: Sholis’s conversations and interviews with the exhibition’s artists; contemporary publications and zines selected by international correspondents; and texts by philosophers, sociologists, journalists, marketing, and technology experts about this generation. Regular lunchtime presentations will address the idea of generational shifts and the specific nature of this generation and its influences.

EXHIBITION SUPPORT
“The Generational: Younger Than Jesus” is made possible by a generous grant from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Major support is provided by the Friends of The Generational, co-chaired by Maja Hoffman and Dakis Joannou, and the Leadership Council of the New Museum.


ARTISTS INCLUDED IN “THE GENERATIONAL: YOUNGER THAN JESUS” ARE:

AIDS-3D
Daniel Keller
Born 1986 in Detroit, Michigan, USA
Lives in Berlin, Germany

Nik Kosmas
Born 1985 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
Lives in Berlin, Germany

Ziad Antar
Born 1978 in Saida, Lebanon
Lives in Saida, Lebanon and Paris, France

Cory Arcangel
Born 1978 in Buffalo, New York, USA
Lives in Brooklyn, New York, USA

Tauba Auerbach
Born 1981 in San Francisco, California, USA
Lives in New York, New York, USA

Wojciech Bąkowski
Born 1979 in Poznán, Poland
Lives in Poznán, Poland

Dineo Seshee Bopape
Born 1981 in Polokwane, South Africa
Lives in New York, New York, USA

Mohamed Bourouissa
Born 1978 in Blida, Algeria
Lives in Paris, France

Kerstin Brätsch
Born 1976 in Hamburg, Germany
Lives in New York, New York, USA and Berlin, Germany

Cao Fei
Born 1978 in Guangzhou, China
Lives in Beijing, China

Carolina Caycedo
Born 1978 in London, England
Lives in Isabela, Puerto Rico

Chu Yun
Born 1977 in Jiangxi, China
Lives in Shenzhen, China

Keren Cyter
Born 1977 in Tel Aviv, Israel
Lives in Berlin, Germany

Marienchen Danz
Born 1980 in Dublin, Ireland
Lives in Los Angeles, California, USA

Faye Driscoll
Born 1976 in Los Angeles, California, USA
Lives in Brooklyn, New York, USA

Ida Ekblad
Born 1980 in Oslo, Norway
Lives in Oslo, Norway

Haris Epaminonda
Born 1980 in Nicosia, Cyprus
Lives in Berlin, Germany and Nicosia, Cyprus

Patricia Esquivias
Born 1979 in Caracas, Venezuela
Lives in Guadalajara, Mexico

Mark Essen
Born 1986 in Los Angeles, California, USA
Lives in Brooklyn, New York, USA

Ruth Ewan
Born 1980 in Aberdeen, Scotland
Lives in London, England

Brendan Fowler
Born 1978 in Berkeley, California, USA
Lives in Los Angeles, California, USA
Luke Fowler  
Born 1978 in Glasgow, Scotland  
Lives in Glasgow, Scotland

LaToya Ruby Frazier  
Born 1982 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA  
Lives in New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA

Cyprien Gaillard  
Born 1980 in Paris, France  
Lives in Paris, France

Ryan Gander  
Born 1976 in Chester, England  
Lives in London, England

Liz Glynn  
Born 1981 in Boston, Massachusetts, USA  
Lives in Los Angeles, California, USA

Loris Gréaud  
Born 1979 in Eaubonne, France  
Lives in Paris, France and  
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Shilpa Gupta  
Born 1976 in Mumbai, India  
Lives in Mumbai, India

Emre Hüner  
Born 1977 in Istanbul, Turkey  
Lives in Istanbul, Turkey

Matt Keegan  
Born 1976 in Manhasset, New York, USA  
Lives in Brooklyn, New York, USA

Tigran Khachatryan  
Born 1980 in Yerevan, Armenia  
Lives in Yerevan, Armenia

Kitty Kraus  
Born 1976 in Heidelberg, Germany  
Lives in Berlin, Germany

Adriana Lara  
Born 1978 in Mexico City, Mexico  
Lives in Mexico City, Mexico

Elad Lassry  
Born 1977 in Tel Aviv, Israel  
Lives in Los Angeles, California, USA

Liu Chuang  
Born 1978 in Hubei, China  
Lives in Beijing, China

Guthrie Lonergan  
Born 1984 in Los Angeles, California, USA  
Lives in Los Angeles, California, USA

Tala Madani  
Born 1981 in Tehran, Iran  
Lives in Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Anna Molska  
Born 1983 in Prudnik, Poland  
Lives in Warsaw, Poland

Ciprian Muresan  
Born 1977 in Cluj, Romania  
Lives in Cluj, Romania

Ahmet Öğüt  
Born 1981 in Diyarbakir, Turkey  
Lives in Istanbul, Turkey

Adam Pendleton  
Born 1980 in Richmond, Virginia, USA  
Lives in New York, New York, USA

Stephen G. Rhodes  
Born 1977 in Houston, Texas, USA  
Lives in Los Angeles, California, USA

James Richards  
Born 1983 in Cardiff, Wales, UK  
Lives in London, England

Emily Roysdon  
Born 1977 in Easton, Maryland, USA  
Lives in New York, New York, USA

Kateřina Šedá  
Born 1977 in Brno, Czech Republic  
Lives in Brno and Prague, Czech Republic

Josh Smith  
Born 1976 in Okinawa, Japan  
Lives in New York, New York, USA

Ryan Trecartin  
Born 1981 in Webster, Texas, USA  
Lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Alexander Ugay  
Born 1978 in Kyzylorda, Kazakhstan  
Lives in Almaty, Kazakhstan

Tris Vonna-Michell  
Born 1982 in Southend-on-Sea, England  
Lives in Berlin, Germany, and London, England

Jakub Julian Ziolkowski  
Born 1980 in Zamosc, Poland  
Lives in Kraków, Poland

Icaro Zorbar  
Born 1977 in Bogotá, Colombia  
Lives in Bogotá, Colombia

ABOUT THE 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.

# # #