

The New Museum

OF CONTEMPORARY ART

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE NEW MUSEUM REMEMBERS THOSE LOST AND HONORS THOSE LIVING WITH AIDS & HIV

On December 1, 1992, The New Museum of Contemporary Art will join thousands of galleries and museums around the world to mark **Day Without Art** -- a day for mourning, remembrance, and action organized by Visual AIDS in response to the AIDS pandemic. In it's fourth year, **Day Without Art** coincides with the World Health Organization's fourth annual AIDS Awareness Day. **DWA** offers an opportunity to verbalize and visualize experience, share pain, and support those who are living with HIV and AIDS.

This year The New Museum will re-install artist Robert Farber's audio project Every Ten Minutes. Installed in the Museum's entryway, this project rings a bell in ten minute intervals representing one HIV-related death every ten minutes in the United States. Additionally, artist/activist collaborative **Gran Fury** will update the statistics on the I.e.d. sign that accompanies the **Silence=Death** neon logo, both installed in the Museum's lobby until the AIDS crisis is over. The I.e.d. and neon logo are originally from the Broadway Window installation Let the Record Show... by **ACT UP**/New York in 1987, organized by the late William Olander, Curator of the Museum.

The Visitors' Alcove in the Broadway Window, currently part of The Spatial Drive exhibition, and the Museum lobby will be transformed into a reception area for the community as a public **Day Without Art** action. Throughout the day, **Body Positive**, a New York City-based service organization serving people with AIDS and HIV, will use the Window as an information, referral, and resource center. Additional education materials and literature provided by **GMHC** (Gay Men's Health Crisis).

In addition to the above programs, The New Museum staff, members, visitors, and friends have audio-taped an on-going list of people whom they've known who have died from AIDS complications. Inspired by Simon Watson's **The Witness Project**, and borrowing names from that list, this tape will be heard on the sidewalk from speakers underneath the Museum's Broadway Window.

Specifically for **Day Without Art**, and as part of the current exhibition FluxAttitudes, the artists collaborative The OParty! will hand out envelopes in front of the Museum and in other New York City sites as well as in Boston and Berlin. These envelopes contain a sheet describing a hypothetical AIDS-related predicament. For example, one sheet reads "...imagine that you have just found out that you are HIV+ and you have no health insurance." This interactive project combines the reality of AIDS with individual identity to demonstrate how we are all affected by acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

The New Museum of Contemporary Art is located at 583 Broadway between Prince and Houston Streets in Soho. Hours are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday: Noon to 6:00 PM; Saturday: Noon to 8:00 PM; closed Monday and Tuesday. Admission is \$3.50 general; \$2.50 artists, seniors, students; members and children under 12, free. The galleries are closed during Day Without Art, but the Museum lobby and Broadway Window will be open to the public. There is no admission fee during DWA.

Funding for Day Without Art is provided, in part, by the William Olander Memorial Fund. The fund was established following the death of New Museum curator William Olander in 1989, to further work in the fields of photography, video, performance, installation, and cultural activism.

For recorded information regarding exhibitions and programs please call 212/219-1355.