

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

SPRING SEASON CALENDAR

INTRODUCTION



For nearly 65 years, The Institute of Contemporary Art has been introducing to Boston and the country some of the most important contemporary artists of our time, from Pablo Picasso and Robert Rauschenberg to Andy Warhol and Cindy Sherman. This excellence in presenting contemporary art began with the ICA's inception in 1936. The ICA's first director, James Sachs Plaut, envisioned this new institution as "an laboratory in which we would present a platform for things that were happening on the contemporary art scene."

Today, the ICA continues to be at the vanguard of contemporary art with its excellent program of exhibitions by cutting-edge artists and Vita Brevis projects that bring art into public spaces. Our commitment to fulfilling our mission is sustained today through the ICA's provocative exhibitions, Vita Brevis projects, in-house documentaries, and educational programs like Fast Forward and ICA Artists-in-Residence at Boston National Historical Park. As we continue to provide a platform for artistic innovation and provocation, we hope you will engage with the ICA by visiting our current exhibition, following our upcoming expansion, or reaping the benefits of ICA membership.

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LIKENESS

Over forty years ago, Andy Warhol promoted the concept that artists are celebrities, just as worthy of portrayal as other cultural icons. Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists begins where Warhol left off. Presenting visually striking and conceptually diverse works in a range of mediums, Likeness is the first exhibition to propose a recent history of artists' representations of other artists--of friends, peers, and idols. With works created during the past three decades by artists active in such cities as Berlin, London, Los Angeles and New York, this exhibition also portrays the social dynamics of certain recent milieus of contemporary art.

While any portrait is both a document and a personal record of the relationship between the artist and his or her subject, portraits of artists further enrich the situation. Likeness investigates the various ways artists have re-imagined exactly what constitutes a portrait. Unlike portraits of politicians or royalty, for example, these images reflect a dialogue in which the identities and status of both portrayers and portrayed are interrelated. Born of encounters between individuals who share similar social roles, these works make concrete the intimate dramas of the art world: the private, and therefore privileged, relationships that typically exist beyond public scrutiny.

SEASON AT ICA



This exhibition presents over fifty paintings, drawings, photographs, and several works in other media. Among the included works are Robert Mapplethorpe's photograph of Louise Bourgeois, Deborah Kass's silk-screen of Cindy Sherman as Liza Minelli, Elizabeth Peyton's painting of David Hockney, Felix Gonzales-Torres's textual portrait of Julie Ault, and Tacita Dean's film Mario Merz. This exhibition is co-organized by the CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, and Independent Curators International (ICI), New York, and is circulated by ICI. The guest curator is Matthew Higgs.

MOMENTUM

The third exhibition in the ongoing Momentum series features the work of Boston-based, Calcutta-born painter Kanishka Raja, winner of the 2004 Digitas / ICA Artist Prize. In the past few years Raja has received considerable attention for his carefully built images of dizzying interior landscapes, which blend a hard edge illustrational style with Op art patterning, Indian miniaturist detail, and American pop references. For his Momentum exhibition, Raja presents new and recent work in an installation that responds to the architecture of the ICA Momentum gallery.

Raja was born in Calcutta, India, in 1969, and has lived in the United States since he was 18. He received his MFA from Southern Methodist University in Dallas in 1995 and in 2000 he attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Skowhegan, Maine. He has had solo exhibitions at Brandeis University, Waltham, MA; Bellwether Gallery, Brooklyn; The Gallery at Green Street, Boston, and most recently at Allston Skirt Gallery in Boston. He has also been included in numerous group exhibitions in Boston, New York, Miami, and Berlin.

Called "an exceptionally interesting painter" by the New York Times, Raja has recently reached a new level of sophistication and complexity in his work. His large-scale paintings of strange, disorienting interior spaces play with texture, pattern, and perspective. He draws inspiration from the public, though often anonymous, interiors of hotels and airport lounges, as well as from the more intimate domains of bedrooms and family "rec" rooms. Although his paintings are empty of inhabitants, Raja fills them with resonant object-crates of vinyl records.

VIEWPOINTS

Kanishka Raja, Momentum artist

Described as an “exceptionally interesting painter” by the New York Times, Raja is the 2004 recipient of the Digitas/ICA Artist Prize, given annually to a Boston artist in recognition of outstanding work produced in the last year. The Calcutta-born, Boston-based artist creates large-scale paintings of strange, disorienting interior spaces that play with texture, pattern, and perspective.



Bennett Simpson, ICA Associate Curator

“What is an Artist?”

Prior to joining the ICA in the summer of 2004, Simpson served as Associate Curator at the Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania. Simpson is also a widely published critic whose writing on art and music has appeared in *Artforum*, *Frieze*, *Texte zur Kunst*, and *Purple*.

Lynne Adams, writer, actor, and film producer

“Finding Voices”

Massachusetts resident Lynne Adams has appeared in the daytime drama “The Guiding Light” and “Frasier,” and is also a playwright and co-founder of Green Plays in New York. She wrote, produced, and starred in her first movie “Made Up (2004), which focuses on the characters and dynamics between family members.

Donald Miller, MIT Police Officer and sketch artist

“On Composite Drawing”

A bicycle patrolman on the MIT campus, Miller combines drawing ability and forensic training to provide drawings of suspects to police forces in the Boston and Cambridge areas. Likeness is achieved from a relationship between crime victims memory and Millers skills of listening, police experience, and drawing.

Dr. Richard Brilliant, Professor Emeritus, Columbia University

“Likeness is Not Enough”

An established academic and respected author of 11 books Brilliant has been editor and consultant to arts publications and media programming, focusing specifically on the field of portraiture.

FAMILY DAYS

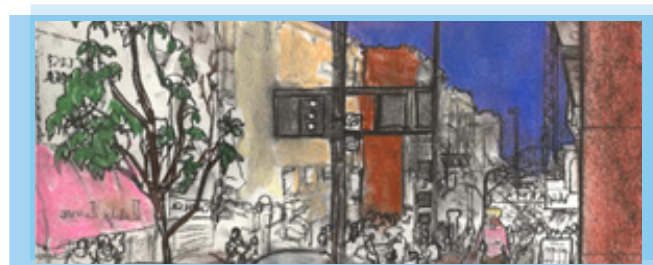
Portrait Transfers

What is a portrait? How can you convey someone's likeness? What can portraits tell us about someone? Explore the work of artists such as Chuck Close, Julian Opie, and Elizabeth Peyton and make portraits of your companions with artist Cori Champagne, who will teach you to use Polaroid transfers.

Family Days are fun and suitable for children.

\$10 for one adult and one child (\$4 for each additional child),

\$8 for ICA members and one child (\$2 for each additional child).



Sunday Encounters

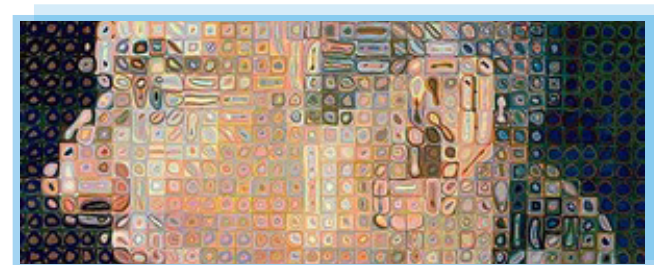
At 2:30 pm on the first Sunday of each month, ICA docents and staff members lead informal exhibition tours. Participants have the opportunity to examine specific art works as well as ask questions.

Free with museum admission.

LEARNING to LOOK

Winter Author Events at the ICA Bookstore

This comprehensive series focused on approaching and understanding contemporary visual art meets on three consecutive Wednesday evenings and will introduce and develop specific concepts, themes, or chronologies in contemporary art. The courses combine slide presentations with looking at work in the current ICA exhibition, providing an extended opportunity to question, discuss, and understand contemporary visual art.



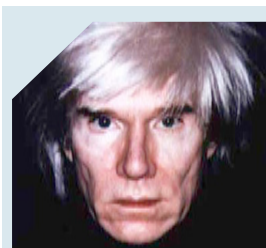
Learning to Look

Explore ICA exhibitions by focusing on a specific art media, process, or artist. Held when the museum is closed to the public, this slide presentation, exhibition tour, and discussion is a unique opportunity to take an in-depth look at ICA exhibitions and understand critical issues in specific artists work.

SEASON AT-A-GLANCE

JANUARY

19 Exhibition

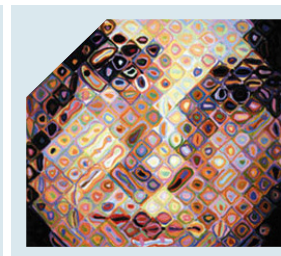


20 Kanishka Raja, Momentum artist
6:30 p.m.



21 Portrait Transfers
10 a.m.

26 Michael Hintlian
Digging: The Workers
of Boston's Big Dig in
Photographs
6:30 p.m.



29 The Three-Way
Gaze
5:30 p.m.

6 The Three-Way
Gaze
5:30 p.m.

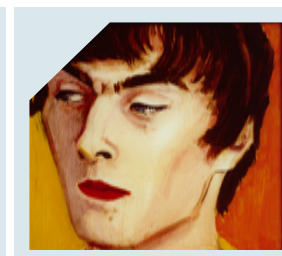


9 Bennett Simpson,
Associate Curator
"What is an Artist?"
6:30 p.m.



17 Lynne Adams,
writer, actor, and
film producer
6:30 p.m.

23 Portrait Transfers
10 a.m.



24 Roy Grundmann
Andy Warhol's
Blow Job
6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

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