FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2015/2016 SCHEDULE OF EXHIBITIONS

“Jim Shaw: The End is Here”
Second, Third, and Fourth Floors

The New Museum will present the first American survey exhibition of the work of Jim Shaw (b. 1952). Over the past thirty years, Shaw has become one of the United States’ most influential and visionary artists, moving between painting, sculpture, and drawing, and building connections between his own psyche and America’s larger political, social, and spiritual histories. Shaw mines his imagery from the cultural refuse of the twentieth century, using comic books, record covers, conspiracy magazines, and obscure religious iconography to produce a portrait of the nation’s subconscious. Although a recognized icon of the Los Angeles art scene since the 1970s, Shaw has never had a museum survey in New York. “The End is Here” will present some of Shaw’s most iconic projects, including early airbrush drawings; large selections from his series “Dream Drawings” (1992–99), “Dream Objects” (1994–present), and the sprawling “My Mirage” (1985–91); and Labyrinth: I Dreamt I was Taller than Jonathan Borofsky (2009), a large-scale, immersive installation of sculptures and painted theatrical backdrops. This survey will also include a presentation of his collection of thrift store paintings, originally shown in New York in 1991, as well as his ongoing collection of religious pedagogical materials that he has been amassing for decades. These two collections demonstrate Shaw’s unique insight into the spiritual and aesthetic history of America and the ways in which the obscure, personal expressions he has collected have informed his own unique artworks. The exhibition is curated by Massimiliano Gioni, Artistic Director, and Gary Carrion-Murray, Kraus Family Curator, with Margot Norton, Associate Curator.

“Barbara Rossi: Poor Traits”
Lobby Gallery

This exhibition will mark Barbara Rossi’s (b. 1940) first museum exhibition in New York as well as the most significant presentation of her work since the early 1990s. “Poor Traits” will feature a selection of Rossi’s enigmatic and playful graphite and colored pencil drawings from the late 1960s and meticulously rendered reverse paintings on Plexiglas from the early 1970s. Rossi first exhibited her work in late-1960s Chicago, where she became associated with a number of young artists known as the Chicago Imagists who shared an interest in non-Western and popular imagery and the pursuit of vivid, figurative work often coupled with humorous gags or puns. Her delirious innovations, however, are idiosyncratic even among an eclectic set of peers. In her early drawings, Rossi turned inward to find a visual language independent of contemporary tendencies and art historical traditions. Mining her own unconscious in an open and spontaneous process, the artist’s semi-automatist approach yielded a surreal morphology in which sporadic figurative suggestions transform wandering lines into hallucinatory portraits. The exhibition is curated by Natalie Bell, Assistant Curator.
Pia Camil  
January 13–April 17, 2016  
Lobby Gallery

In January 2016, the New Museum will host the first solo museum presentation in New York of the work of artist Pia Camil (b. 1980). In her paintings, sculptures, performances, and installations, Camil draws inspiration from the inner-city landscape of her native Mexico City and from the history of modernism. Her projects expose the problems as well as the latent possibilities within urban ruin, exploring what she refers to as the “aesthetization of failure.” For her “Espectaculares” series (2012–ongoing) she hand-dyed and stitched curtains inspired by the modular panels of abandoned commercial billboards in Mexico City, transforming the remnants of a dysfunctional commercial culture into theatrical environments. Recent projects such as Entrecortinas: Abre, Jala, Corre (2014) expand the scope of her practice to incorporate ceramic vessels and structural elements that invite the viewer to navigate through the space of the exhibition and experience shifting viewpoints and juxtapositions. At the New Museum, Camil will present an immersive sculptural installation created specifically for the Lobby Gallery. The exhibition is curated by Margot Norton, Associate Curator.

Anri Sala  
February 3–April 10, 2016  
Second, Third, and Fourth Floors

In February 2016, the New Museum will present a major exhibition of the work of Anri Sala (b. 1974), one of the most acclaimed artists to emerge in recent decades. Highlighting Sala’s poetic and conceptual approaches to music, sound, and architecture, the exhibition will feature elaborate multichannel audio and video installations that will unfold on three of the Museum’s floors, composing an experience specific to the New Museum. The artist’s video works often depict fragments of everyday life that double as portraits of society, and in his installations, Sala exposes how communication occurs outside the limits of language as well as how sounds can affect our perception of time and space. In recent works, Sala has focused on forms of classical music, and the exhibition at the New Museum will include Sala’s striking two-film installation Ravel, Ravel, which debuted in his solo presentation for the French Pavilion at the 55th Venice Biennale in 2013. Though Sala, who was born in Albania, has exhibited internationally since the late 1990s, the exhibition at the New Museum will mark his first solo presentation at a New York museum. The exhibition is curated by Massimiliano Gioni, Artistic Director, with Margot Norton, Associate Curator, and Natalie Bell, Assistant Curator.

PERFORMANCE-BASED EXHIBITIONS
FALL 2015 R&D SEASON: PERSONA

Wynne Greenwood: “Kelly”  
Fifth Floor Gallery and New Museum Theater

Wynne Greenwood (R&D Season artist in residence) works across video, performance, music, and sculpture to explore the ways in which a single queer “self” may be pluralized and mobilized to fluidly embody different subjectivities and personae. Greenwood is widely known for her work as Tracy + the Plastics (1999–2006), in which she plays all three parts in an all-girl band, performing live as vocalist Tracy, accompanied by videos of herself portraying keyboardist Nikki and drummer Cola. “Kelly” is an exhibition and a six-month residency at the New Museum in which Greenwood will premiere the complete, recently re-performed and newly mastered archive of Tracy + the Plastics’ performances alongside new work in video and sculpture. Greenwood’s residency will include a conversation series that will address topics such as queer archives, legacies of feminist video production, and the role scripts play in performance, as well as a music series that will invite artists to perform as one-night-only bands, among other programs. Material from the historic New Museum exhibitions “Homo Video: Where We Are Now” (1986–87) and “Bad Girls” (1994) will be on view in the Museum’s Resource Center adjacent to the exhibition. “Kelly” is co-curated by Johanna Burton, Keith Haring Director and Curator of Education and Public Engagement, New Museum, and Stephanie Snyder, John and Anne Hauberg Curator and Director, the Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery, Reed College, with Sara O’Keeffe, Assistant Curator, New Museum.
X-ID REP
New Museum Theater

Working within a pop-up repertory theater model, X-ID REP will examine the shifting ethical boundaries surrounding intercultural cross-play on contemporary American stages. The project brings together a group of directors and playwrights recognized for their diverse approaches to staging across various identifications of class, race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, and ability, among others. These artists will cast a resident company of actors with whom they will collaborate to develop material that further highlights a spectrum of approaches to the topic. Their research will unfold in an open-studio environment. Participating artists: Lileana Blain-Cruz, Kirk Wood Bromley, Jackie Sibblies Drury, Kareem Fahmy, MJ Kaufman, JJ Lind, Aya Ogawa, and Nigel Smith. X-ID REP is organized by Travis Chamberlain, Associate Curator of Performance and Manager of Public Programs.

Jack Ferver and Marc Swanson: Chambre
September 24–October 4, 2015
New Museum Theater

The New Museum and the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF) will present the New York City premiere of Jack Ferver and Marc Swanson’s Chambre, included as part of the Crossing the Line Festival. In Chambre, writer, choreographer, and director Ferver and visual artist Swanson take Jean Genet’s The Maids as a point of departure for a farcical attack on our culture of celebrity and greed. Swanson’s mythic and evocative sculptures—on view as an installation during Museum hours—function as both freestanding artworks and a theatrical set. Performed by Ferver, Michelle Mola, and Jacob Slominski, Chambre asks not how such a violent thing could have happened, but why things like this don’t happen more often. Performances: Thursdays and Fridays, 7 PM; Saturdays and Sundays, 3 PM. Chambre is organized on behalf of the New Museum by Johanna Burton and Travis Chamberlain.

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