

# WHITNEY

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# PRESS RELEASE



## **The Whitney presents Ninth Annual Annenberg Lecture: John Currin in Conversation with Adam D. Weinberg**

NEW YORK, October 9, 2013— For the 2013 Walter Annenberg Lecture, artist John Currin will speak about his work with Adam D. Weinberg, the Whitney's Alice Pratt Brown Director. The conversation will take place on Tuesday, October 29, at 7pm, at the Whitney Museum of American Art, 945 Madison Avenue at 75th Street, in the Museum's lower gallery. The annual lecture is given in honor of the late Walter H. Annenberg, philanthropist, patron of the arts, and former ambassador. Admission is free but registration is required. Please visit [whitney.org](http://whitney.org) to register for seats, which are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

### **About John Currin**

One of the few contemporary painters who focus exclusively on the figure, John Currin is among the most provocative artists of his generation. Inspired by a broad range of historical and contemporary sources, from Italian Renaissance art to twentieth-century advertisements and fashion magazines, his work both references and examines the tradition of painting itself. Over the past three decades, Currin has remained dedicated to exploring the medium, demonstrating unparalleled technical virtuosity while producing bold portraits, nudes, and genre scenes.

Born in Boulder, Colorado in 1962, John Currin currently lives and works in New York City. He received a BFA from Carnegie Mellon University and an MFA from Yale University. His work has been the subject of several solo exhibitions, including *John Currin: Works on Paper* (Des Moines Art Center, 2003, which traveled to the Aspen Art Museum, Colorado); *John Currin* (Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 2003, which traveled to the Serpentine Gallery, London, and the Whitney Museum). He was also featured in the 2000 Biennial and several other group exhibitions at the Whitney from the 1990s through the present.

Currin's work can be found in several major museum collections, including the Whitney and the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Tate Collection, London; and Centre Pompidou, Paris.

### **Walter Annenberg Annual Lecture**

In honor of the late Walter H. Annenberg, a noted supporter of the arts and former U.S. ambassador to United Britain, the Whitney Museum of American Art established the Walter Annenberg Annual Lecture to advance this country's understanding of its art and culture. Support for this lecture and for public programs at the Whitney Museum is provided, in part, by Jack and Susan Rudin in honor of Beth Rudin DeWoody, public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and by the Museum's Education Committee.

### **About the Whitney**

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the world's leading museum of twentieth-century and contemporary art of the United States. Focusing particularly on works by living artists, the Whitney is celebrated for presenting important exhibitions and for its renowned collection, which comprises over 19,000 works by more than 2,900 artists. With a history of exhibiting the most promising and influential artists and provoking intense debate, the Whitney Biennial, the Museum's signature exhibition, has become the most important survey of the state of contemporary art in the United States. In addition to its landmark exhibitions, the Museum is known internationally for events and educational programs of exceptional significance and as a center for research, scholarship, and conservation.

Founded by sculptor and arts patron Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney in 1930, the Whitney was first housed on West 8th Street in Greenwich Village. The Museum relocated in 1954 to West 54th Street and, in 1966, inaugurated its present home, designed by Marcel Breuer, at 945 Madison Avenue on the Upper East Side. While its vibrant program of exhibitions and events continues uptown, the Whitney is moving forward with a new building project, designed by Renzo Piano, in downtown Manhattan. Located at the corner of Gansevoort and Washington Streets in the Meatpacking District, at the southern entrance to the High Line, the new building, which has generated immense momentum and support, will enable the Whitney to vastly increase the size and scope of its exhibition and programming space. Ground was broken on the new building in May 2011, and it is projected to open to the public in 2015

### **Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art**

Test Pattern	Through December 1, 2013
T.J. Wilcox: In the Air	Through February 9, 2014
Robert Indiana: Beyond Love	Through January 5, 2014
Rituals of Rented Island: Object Theater, Loft Performance, and the New Psychodrama—Manhattan, 1970–1980	Oct 31, 2013–Feb 2014
Steichen in the 1920s and 1930s: A Recent Acquisition	Dec 6, 2013–Feb 2014
2014 Whitney Biennial	March 7–May 25, 2014
Jeff Koons	June 27–Oct 19, 2014

The Whitney Museum is located at 945 Madison Avenue at 75th Street, New York City. Museum hours are: Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday. General admission: \$20. Full-time students and visitors ages 19–25 and 62 & over: \$16. Visitors 18 & under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6–9 p.m. For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit [whitney.org](http://whitney.org).

Image credit:

John Currin (b. 1962), *Skinny Woman*, 1992. Oil on linen, 50 1/8 × 38 1/16 in. (127.3 × 96.7 cm). Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; purchase with funds from The List Purchase Fund and the Painting and Sculpture Committee 92.30. © Photograph courtesy Gagosian Gallery