

WHITNEY

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Press Release

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Installation view from *Weavings: Performance #2 (Portland, OR)*, 2007
Photograph by Dan Kvitka

WHITNEY TO PRESENT *CORIN HEWITT: SEED STAGE* *October 3, 2008-January 4, 2009*

NEW YORK, August 7, 2008 -- This fall, the artist Corin Hewitt takes up occupancy in the Whitney's Anne & Joel Ehrenkranz Lobby Gallery for *Seed Stage*, an installation merging performance art, live theater, and an investigation of ideas about still life. Redefining the notion of the artist-in-residence, Hewitt physically moves about the Whitney's Lobby Gallery space for a period of three months and one day, from October 3, 2008, through January 4, 2009. During this time, the gallery space will be in constant flux with the artist engaged in the creation of a work that is at once an environment and a performance. Hewitt manipulates materials, both homegrown and store-bought, questioning notions of what constitutes the art object through a process of constant transmutation. This is Hewitt's first one-person exhibition at the Whitney.

Tina Kukielski, senior curatorial assistant at the Whitney and organizer of the exhibition, notes: "Hewitt's methods include cooking, sculpting, heating and cooling, casting, canning, eating, and photographing both organic and inorganic materials. The result is an intimate examination of the cycles of transformation and transience."

About the Artist

Corin Hewitt lives and works in Brooklyn. Born in 1971, in Burlington, Vermont, he received his MFA from the Milton Avery School of the Arts at Bard College (2007), his BA from Oberlin College (1993) and attended the Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Karlsruhe, Germany (1996) and Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Maine (2004). Recent solo exhibitions of Hewitt's work have taken place at Taxter and Spengemann Gallery in New York, and at Small A Projects in Portland, Oregon. His Public Art Fund project, *Legacy*, shown in 2005–2006, was a 21-foot-long rainbow made of cast street sweepings emerging from a planter at the MetroTech Center in Downtown Brooklyn. The sweepings were cast from actual debris collected on seven consecutive days by the city's street sweeping machines: dirt, grit, gravel, gum wrappers, bottle caps, socks, plastic combs, and whatever other litter the sweeper picked up during the course of a day. His work was included in "New City: Sub/Urbia in Recent Photography" at the Whitney in late 2005. Hewitt has an upcoming solo exhibition of his photography at the Seattle Museum of Art in the spring of 2009.

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the leading advocate of 20th- and 21st-century American art. Founded in 1930, the Museum is regarded as the preeminent collection of American art and includes major works and materials from the estate of Edward Hopper, the largest public collection of works by Alexander Calder, as well as significant works by Jasper Johns, Donald Judd, Agnes Martin, Bruce Nauman, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claes Oldenburg, Kiki Smith, and Andy Warhol, among other artists. With its history of exhibiting the most promising and influential American artists and provoking intense critical and public debate,

the Whitney's signature show, the Biennial, has become the most important survey of the state of contemporary art in America today. First housed on West 8th Street, the Whitney relocated in 1954 to West 54th Street and in 1966 inaugurated its present home at 945 Madison Avenue, designed by Marcel Breuer. The Whitney is currently moving ahead with plans to build a second facility, designed by Renzo Piano, located in downtown New York at the entrance to the High Line in the Meatpacking District.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art:

Polaroids: Mapplethorpe	Through September 14, 2008
Buckminster Fuller: Starting with the Universe	Through September 21, 2008
Paul McCarthy: Three Installations, Two Films	Through October 12, 2008
"Progress"	Through November 30, 2008
Signs of the Time	Opens September 19, 2008
Between the Still and Moving Image	October 1–November 30, 2008
Corin Hewitt: Seed Stage	October 3, 2008–January 4, 2009
Alexander Calder: The Paris Years	October 16, 2008–February 15, 2009
William Eggleston	November 7, 2008–January 25, 2009

The Whitney Museum is located at 945 Madison Avenue, 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. Admission is \$15 for adults; free for members, children (ages 11 and under), and New York City public high school students. Senior citizens (62 and over) and students with valid ID: \$10. There is a \$6 admission fee for a pass to the Kaufman Astoria Studios Film & Video Gallery only. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6–9 pm. For information, please call 1-212-570-3600 or visit whitney.org