

For Immediate Release



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*My Brain Is in My Inkstand: Drawing as Thinking and Process
Opens at Cranbrook Art Museum in November*



Bloomfield Hills, Mich., October 17, 2013 – On November 16, 2013, Cranbrook Art Museum will open a new season of exhibitions examining how the act of drawing impacts both artistic and scientific thinking.

Through the new major exhibition, *My Brain Is in My Inkstand: Drawing as Thinking and Process*, and the accompanying traveling exhibition, *The Islands of Benoît Mandelbrot: Fractals, Chaos, and the Materiality of Thinking*, Cranbrook Art Museum will examine how sketches on paper are the first materialized traces of an idea, and how they are used as an instrument to make a meandering thought concrete.

An exhibition examining the work of Cranbrook's first Resident Ceramic Sculptor, *Waylande Gregory: Art Deco Ceramics and the Atomic Impulse*, will also open on November 16.

With an opening weekend full of live performances and work from artists and scientists, a basketball coach and skateboarder, a biologist and even Native American Indians, the exhibitions promise to take you on a journey, demonstrating that if you can *think* it you can *do* it – but first you must *draw* it.

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My Brain Is in My Inkstand: Drawing as Thinking and Process

November 16, 2013 – March 30, 2014

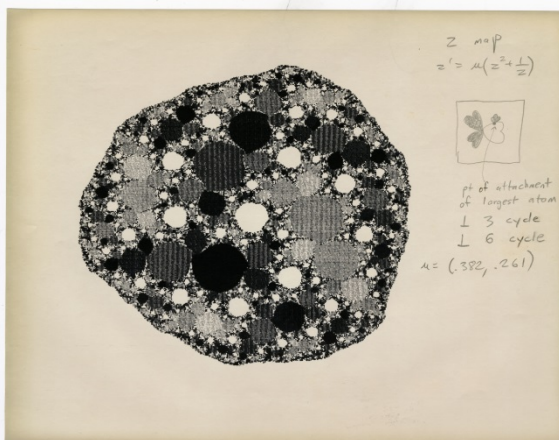
An original new exhibition organized by Cranbrook Art Museum brings together 22 artists from around the world to redefine the notion of drawing as a thinking process in the arts and sciences alike.

Inspired by the accompanying exhibition *The Islands of Benoît Mandelbrot*, the exhibition uses multiple sources to show how drawings reveal the interdependency of mark making and thinking. Featured artists include John Cage, Front Design, legendary basketball coach Phil Jackson, Mark Lombardi, Tony Orrico, Tristan Perich, Ruth Adler Schnee, Carolee Schneemann, and many more practitioners from around the world (click [here](#) for a complete list). The exhibition will also incorporate work from the collections of Cranbrook Institute of Science and the Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research.

Artist Tony Orrico (pictured above) will conduct a live public performance from 11am – 3pm on both Saturday, November 16 and Sunday, November 17 as he continues a three-day process of creating a drawing that will remain in the Museum for the duration of the exhibition. Artist and composer Tristan Perich will install a live *Machine Drawing* that uses mechanics and code to cumulatively etch markings across a Museum wall.

The title of the exhibition derives from a quotation by American philosopher, mathematician and scientist Charles Sanders Peirce, whose work involving the over- and under-laying of mathematical formulas with pictographic drawings will be presented for the first time.

Organized by Cranbrook Art Museum and curated by independent curator Nina Samuel.



The Islands of Benoît Mandelbrot: Fractals, Chaos, and the Materiality of Thinking

November 16, 2013 – March 30, 2014

Focusing on the work of mathematician Benoît Mandelbrot (1924 - 2010), this exhibition explores the role of images in scientific thinking. Featuring works on paper, photographs, objects, and films, viewers can take an inside look at aspects of a new world of ideas that became popularly known as fractal geometry and chaos theory.

Organized by the Bard Graduate Center: Decorative Arts, Design History, Material Culture, New York, and curated by independent curator Nina Samuel.

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Waylande Gregory: Art Deco Ceramics and the Atomic Impulse

November 16, 2013 – March 23, 2014

Waylande Gregory (1905 – 1971) was one of the leading figures in 20th-century American ceramics, helping shape Art Deco design in the United States. In 1931 and 1932, he served as Resident Ceramic Sculptor at Cranbrook Academy of Art, and helped develop the Academy's ceramics program. Although he worked at Cranbrook for only 18 months, Gregory produced several well-known sculptures here, including *Kansas Madonna* and *Girl with Olive*, both of which are featured in the exhibition.

Organized and circulated by the University of Richmond Museums, Virginia, and curated by independent ceramics scholar Dr. Thomas C. Folk.

Opening Weekend Activities

Visit during the opening weekend and take part in activities, live performances, talks and demonstrations designed to bring the act of drawing to life.

Friday, November 15

Become an ArtMember to take part in these exclusive events. Memberships may be purchased at the Front Desk.

ArtMembers' Opening Reception: 6-8pm

Meet six of the artists in the exhibition, and curators Nina Samuel and Thomas Folk.

Artist Tony Orrico will conduct a live performance from **6-8pm** in the Main Gallery, as he begins the three-day process of creating a drawing that will remain in the Museum for the duration of the exhibition.

From **8-8:30pm**, enjoy a rare musical performance by artist and composer Tristan Perich, whose live *Machine Drawing* will also be activated that night.

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Saturday, November 16

Exhibition Opens to the General Public: 11am – 5pm

Tony Orrico continues his live drawing performance, from **11am-3pm** in the Main Gallery.

Lecture Marathon: Noon - 5pm

All lectures take place in deSalle Auditorium and are included with regular Museum admission and free for ArtMembers and students with identification.

Corrie Van Sice (Creative Researcher)

Noon

“Cultural Amnesia: Synthetic Biology and the Mechanism of Life”

David Bowen (Studio Artist and Educator)

1pm

“Computing Natural Phenomena”

Chemi Rosado Seijo (Artist and Skateboarder)

2pm

“Art and the Urban Landscape”

Tristan Perich (Artist and Composer)

3pm

“Machine Drawings and the Visual Composition”

Tony Orrico (Visual and Performance Artist)

4pm

“State of Readiness: The Body as an Art Apparatus”

Sunday, November 17

Tony Orrico continues his live drawing performance, from **11am-3pm** in the Main Gallery.

Youth Tour of the new exhibition, free to children 12 and under.

2pm

Lecture by Thomas Folk (Curator and Ceramics Historian)

4pm

“Waylande Gregory: Art Deco Ceramics and the Atomic Impulse”

Tuesday, November 19

Lecture by Nina Samuel (Curator and Art and Science Historian)

6pm

“My Brain is in My Inkstand: Drawing as Thinking and Process”

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Hours and Admission**Academic Year Hours (September through June):**

Tuesday – Friday, 10am – 5pm

Saturday and Sunday, 11am – 5pm

Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Day, and New Year's Eve and Day

Admission:

ArtMembers and Children 12 & under, Always Free

General: \$8

Seniors (65+): \$6

Students with ID: \$4

Accessibility:

Barrier free access to the galleries of Cranbrook Art Museum can be accommodated through the adjacent New Studios Building. Visitors with disabilities are encouraged to call the Front Desk of the Art Museum at 248-645-3320 during regular museum hours for assistance. If you are planning your visit in advance, you may also call the Art Museum Administrative Offices at 248-645-3319 (Monday through Friday, 9am– 5pm) for additional information.

About Cranbrook Art Museum

Cranbrook Art Museum is located at 39221 Woodward Avenue, on the campus of Cranbrook Educational Community in Bloomfield Hills. It is an integral part of Cranbrook Academy of Art, a community of Artists-in-Residence and graduate-level students of art, design and architecture. The Art Museum, which was established in 1930 and opened in its current building in 1942, is Eliel Saarinen's final masterwork at Cranbrook. Today, the Art Museum presents original exhibitions and educational programming on modern and contemporary architecture, art, crafts, and design, as well as traveling exhibitions, films, workshops, travel tours, and lectures by renowned artists, designers, artists, and critics throughout the year. In 2011, the Art Museum completed a three-year \$22 million construction project that includes both the restoration of the Saarinen-design building and a new state-of-the-art Collections Wing addition. Cranbrook Archives and the offices of the new Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research also are located within the Art Museum. For more information, visit www.cranbrook.edu.

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