



**mima Media Release**  
**release date: 11 October 2010**

PRESS VIEW: 22 November 2010 (or by arrangement)  
PREVIEW: Thursday 25 November 2010, 6-8pm

## **Public invited to choose works for show at mima**

Turning the tables on the public of Middlesbrough, mima is offering a unique opportunity to curate the next exhibition *Questions of Belonging*. This is a chance to have your say about what you want to see at the gallery - you don't need to be an art expert to take part.

The collection is at the heart of mima and Middlesbrough. Since opening mima has presented ten collection shows, showcasing works in new and interesting ways. mima's collection is built around drawing, ceramics and jewellery, focusing on works from 1900 to the present. The collection began in the 1960's and currently has over 2000 works, nearly 200 of which have been acquired since mima opened.

There are two ways in which mima would like you to get involved:

### **Gazette Readers Vote**

Evening Gazette readers are invited to vote for their favourite piece of work from a selection of 50 pieces featured in the paper. The works, including fine art, ceramics and jewellery will be announced on Wednesday 13 October. The top ten pieces that receive the most votes will be championed as 'The Peoples Choice' and revealed in the Gazette on Wednesday 27 October. 'The Peoples Choice' will then be on display at mima from 23 November. Everyone who votes will receive an exclusive invitation to the exhibition opening event on Thursday 25 November. You will be able to vote online at [www.gazettelive.co.uk](http://www.gazettelive.co.uk), by email to [mima@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:mima@middlesbrough.gov.uk) or by calling into the gallery during opening hours.

**The deadline for voting is Sunday 24 October 2010**

### **mima Apprentices**

mima is also seeking five 'apprentices', to work with staff at mima to put on the show, featuring these works. The lucky five will have a crash course in curating, take part in a writer's workshop with 'Writers Block' a local writers group, select additional works from the collection to be added and decide how they will be displayed. Ray Mallon, Mayor will also be involved in the selection and will be working with the apprentices to get the exhibition ready. To take part send mima no more than 150 words about why you would make the ideal mima apprentice, along with contact details, by email to [vicky\\_sturrs@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:vicky_sturrs@middlesbrough.gov.uk), hand your application at mima reception or post to: mima apprentice, Centre Square, Middlesbrough, TS1 2AZ. Applicants will need to be over 18 years old and able to commit to the following dates for workshops: Tuesday 26 October, Saturday 30 October, and Thursday 18 November.

**The deadline for applying to be a mima apprentice is Tuesday 19 October 2010**

Ray Mallon, Middlesbrough Mayor: "I'm all about the people and taking pride in what we have here in Middlesbrough. This is a great opportunity to get to know the towns art collection and get behind the scenes at mima."

Kate Brindley, mima Director who initiated the project said, "This is a bold experiment for mima and something we hope will capture the public's imagination. This exhibition allows us to take a fresh look at the collection through the eyes of Middlesbrough residents. We wanted to show works that we often get asked for when giving the behind the scenes tours or by visitors who remember the old craft centre and gallery. We also looked to select works from fine art, ceramics and jewellery to give a real sense of the collection."

The works will be displayed at mima from 23 November 2010 – 13 March 2011.

Complementary to *Questions of Belonging* mima will showcase *The story so far* looking at questions like Why does mima collect? How was the collection started? What was the first work collected? Find all the answers and more in the timeline looking at the history of mima collection.

*Drawing in Progress*, a unique collection of some forty post-war American drawings, that from now will form part of mima's permanent collection will also be on display. mima has been developing this significant strand of its collection since 2007 in partnership with The Drawing Center, New York and this will be the first time that they have collectively been put on display in the UK. All works have been acquired through the Art Fund International funding initiative that encourages UK museums and galleries to build outstanding collections of international contemporary art. As a result mima has had the opportunity to carefully research and acquire what now stands as one of the finest collections of post-war American drawing in the UK.

#### **INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:**

mima apprentices - 5 members of the public  
Kate Brindley, Director, mima  
James Beighton, Curator, mima

#### **TV/RADIO/PHOTOGRAPHY OPPORTUNITIES:**

Behind the scenes footage- access to mima's collection stores, writing workshops and during the exhibition changeover, which will include unwrapping/wrapping moving and hanging of artwork.

<ENDS>

#### **Notes to Editors**

Exhibitions this November

**Objects of Belonging**

**The story so far: mima collection**

**Drawing in Progress**

**Sue Tompkins**

#### **mima Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art**

mima is one of the UK's leading galleries for modern and contemporary art and craft. The landmark building designed by Erick van Egeraat Architects is situated in the heart of Middlesbrough. mima opened to international critical acclaim in January 2007. Hosting temporary exhibitions of fine art and craft from 1900 to the

present, mima showcases work by internationally acclaimed artists. Exhibitions change throughout the year and admission is free.

**For further press information, images or interviews contact:**

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<p><b>Gallery Opening Times</b> Tues, Wed, Fri &amp; Sat 10.00am-5.00pm, Thurs 10.00am-7.00pm (free parking from 4pm), Sun 12noon-4.00pm Closed Monday Open Bank Holidays (Sunday opening hours apply) <b>Admission FREE</b></p>	<p><b>mima</b> Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art Centre Square Middlesbrough TS1 2AZ t: +44 (0) 1642 726 720 f: +44 (0) 1642 726 722 e: <a href="mailto:mima@middlesbrough.gov.uk">mima@middlesbrough.gov.uk</a> <b><a href="http://www.visitmima.com">www.visitmima.com</a></b></p>
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