



For immediate release

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Christie's Comes to the DCCA *Speaker opens 'Young Contemporaries' program*

WILMINGTON — The Young Contemporaries, the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts' new members' group for young professionals, will hear from an expert from Christie's New York at their first night out, on Thursday, Dec. 14.

Lauren Thistle, a specialist in the Post-War and Contemporary Art Department at Christie's, will talk about "Hot Markets in Contemporary Arts." The program will begin with social/gallery time at 5:30 p.m., at the DCCA, 200 S. Madison St., on Wilmington's Christina Riverfront.

Designed to appeal to collectors, beginners and the merely curious, Thistle's talk comes just four weeks after Christie's semiannual evening auction of Post-War (1945-1970) and Contemporary Art, which posted sales totaling \$239,704,000. Andy Warhol's *Mao* sold for a record-breaking \$17,376,000. A painting by abstract expressionist Willem de Kooning set a record for a post-war work, selling for \$27.12 million.

"The market value of contemporary art is soaring," says Maxine Gaiber, DCCA executive director. "Here's an opportunity to find out what's hot and why."

The DCCA has created the Young Contemporaries group to provide a opportunities to socialize and learn about contemporary art in a casual yet sophisticated setting. Monthly activities will include gallery openings and talks with artists, programs with other young professional groups, dinners at partnering restaurants, trips to Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Plus, members will receive discounts to events, local businesses and attend Members' Only nights.

Admission to the Dec. 14 program is free for Young Contemporaries, \$10 for DCCA members, \$15 for Young Professionals from other organizations and \$20 for others.

Annual fees for Young Contemporaries membership are \$50 for individuals and \$80 for couples and include all the benefits of an individual or household DCCA memberships plus the YC benefits.

To register for the Dec. 14 program or to learn more about the Young Contemporaries, go to www.thedcca.org or call the DCCA at 302 656-6466.



About the DCCA:

The DCCA, a non-collecting art museum founded in 1979, presents more than 30 exhibitions annually of regionally, nationally and internationally recognized artists that explore topical issues in contemporary art and society, as well as symposia, lectures and tours. The DCCA provides individual studios to more than 25 artists, who also exhibit regularly within its galleries and throughout the region. The DCCA has a variety of educational and outreach programs, including one that integrates contemporary arts into the public school curriculum, and artists' residencies that feature collaboration with underserved community groups. The center is housed in a renovated industrial building at 200 South Madison St. in the heart of the rejuvenated Wilmington Riverfront.

DCCA gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Wednesday and Sunday. Admission is \$5 adults, \$3 for students and senior citizens (age 65 and up), with children under 12 admitted free. Admission is pay as you like on Wednesday and free until 1 p.m. Saturday. The DCCA is wheelchair-accessible; visitors with special needs are urged to call in advance. DCCA exhibitions and programs are made possible, in part, through private contributions, members' support, and major grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Delaware Division of the Arts.