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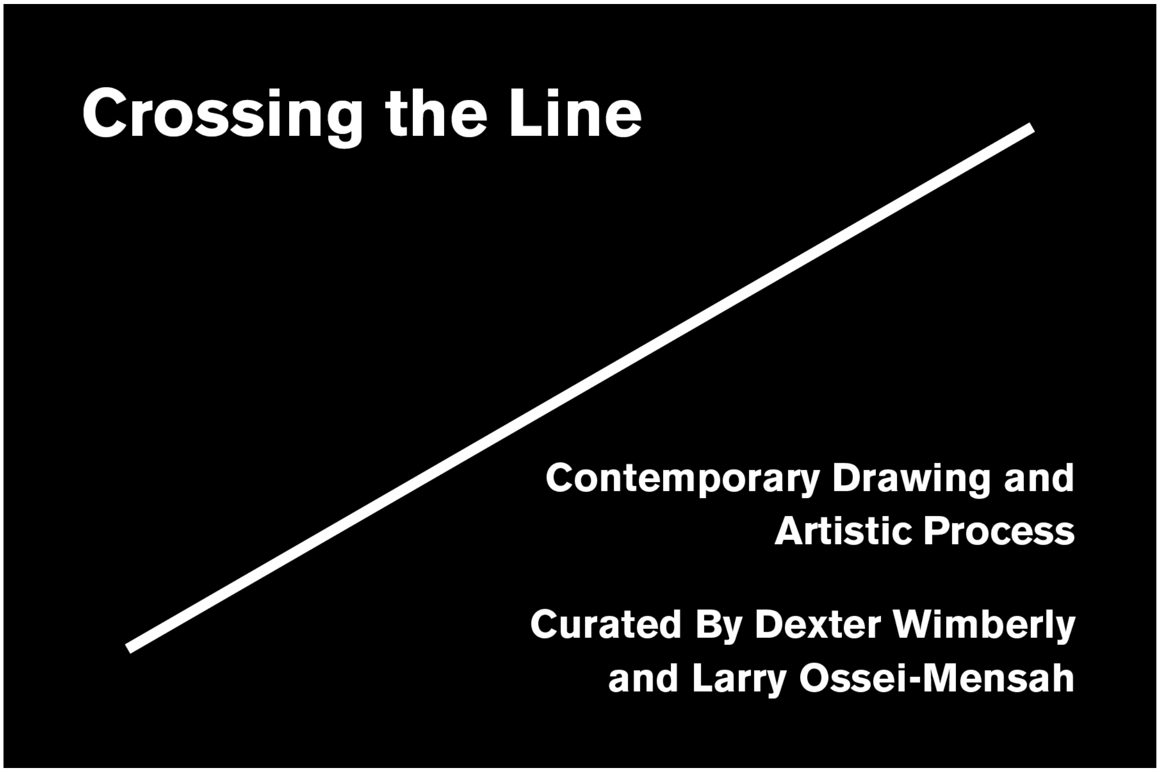

Crossing the Line: Contemporary Drawing and Artistic Process
Curated by Dexter Wimberly and Larry Ossei-Mensah
July 11–August 16, 2013
Opening Reception: Thursday, July 11, 6–8pm

Mixed Greens is proud to present *Crossing the Line: Contemporary Drawing and Artistic Process,* a group exhibition co-curated by Dexter Wimberly and Larry Ossei-Mensah. The curators initiate an expansive visual discourse that brings the act of drawing front and center, showing its importance as the foundation of art making.

Crossing the Line features new works by a group of emerging female artists hailing from Nigeria, the Dominican Republic/Haiti, South Korea, Trinidad, Iran, and the United States. All are exploring drawing within the context of their dynamic artistic practices and re-defining how drawing fits into the broader global contemporary art conversation. The exhibition presents distinct approaches to representational and abstract drawing, as well as experimental, site-specific mixed media and video installations that are equally influenced by drawing.

Ruby Onyinyechi Amanze is a Brooklyn-based artist of Nigerian birth and British upbringing who has found empowerment in the authenticity of the hybrid. Amanze was recently awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to create a new body of work in her native Nigeria to fully piece together the gaps in her identity. She has been greatly influenced by memories of architecture and space, the politics of home, nomadic stories, and urban landscapes. Drawing from her background in textiles and printmaking, Amanze's drawings reflect a fragmented and layered material sensibility that is highly intuitive to process. She received a BFA from Tyler School of Art in 2004 and an MFA from Cranbrook Academy in 2006. Residencies have included Cooper Union in NYC and Gallery Aferro in Newark, NJ.

Firelei Báez is a Haitian-Dominican artist who makes large-scale, intricate works on paper indebted to a convergence of interests in anthropology, science fiction, black female subjectivity, and "women's work." Her art explores the humor and fantasy involved in self-making within diasporic societies. Such societies often utilize cultural ambiguities to build psychological and even metaphysical defenses against cultural invasions. She received a BFA from The Cooper Union's School of Art in 2004, participated in The Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in 2008, and received an MFA from Hunter College in 2010. Her residencies include The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Workspace and The Lower East Side Print Shop. Baez's work has been written about in The New York Times, The LA Times, and Art in America, among others. She was a recipient of the prestigious Joan Mitchell Painters and Sculptors Award as well as the Jaque and Natasha Gelman Award in Painting.

Born in Queens NY, **Oasa Sun DuVerney**'s works on paper and video performances use consumerist culture as a means to unmask our society's collective aggression. DuVerney received her MFA from Hunter College and is the 2011 recipient of the Tony Smith Award. She exhibits her work nationally and has been featured in the New York Times, the New York Daily News, and the Gotham Gazette. She also won awards from the Brooklyn Arts Council and the Citizens Committee for "The Brooklyn Hi-Art Machine," a public project which brings together a small Brooklyn neighborhood every summer to confront gentrification through art making. In 2012, DuVerney's work was exhibited in the three-person exhibition, *Through a glass, darkly*, at Postmasters Gallery in NYC and the group exhibition, *Me Love You Long Time*, at Aljira Art Center in Newark, NJ. DuVerney currently lives in Brooklyn.

Sanam Enayati was born in the United States and raised in Tehran, Iran. Her artwork investigates Iran's current society, beliefs, and principles, as well as its relation to tradition within the globalized world. Enayati also explores the notions of labor and repetition in relation to built spaces via drawing, mark making, and painting. Her mixed-media paintings identify the moment when one's mind is distressed by an immediate reality and struggles to identify the truth. Without any direct connection to her history, Enayati is left to imagine life behind windows of a past world. She incorporates contemporary Persian poetry within her work to represent the soul's voice reaching out to the viewer. Enayati holds her BFA from the Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago, IL, and MFA from the School of Visual Arts, NYC.

Heeseop Yoon was born and raised in Seoul, South Korea. She is known for her large-scale line drawing installations and very intricate black and white drawings. Yoon's concentrated freehand drawings record cluttered spaces and comment most directly on the (in)accuracy of perception. She holds her BFA from Chung-ang University in Seoul and an MFA from City College of NY. Yoon has had solo and two-person shows at prestigious venues including Triple Candie, NYC; Smack Mellon, NYC; and Arario Gallery, Seoul, South Korea. She has exhibited in museums and art centers internationally, including MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA; John Michael Kholer Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI; The Bronx Museum, NYC; Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, South Korea; and CAST, Australia and Median Art Center, Beijing, China. She has participated in several residencies including the Marie Walsh Sharpe Studio Program, Skowhegan's School of Painting and Sculpture, Artist Alliance Inc, and Stiftung Künstlerdorf Schöppingen in Germany. She currently lives and works in Brooklyn.

The Curators

Contemporary art curator and entrepreneur, Dexter Wimberly, was born and raised in Brooklyn. Curatorially, Wimberly focuses on contemporary urban history. "I love art that reflects our times, and I am excited to be in the position to work with artists who are shaping contemporary culture and bringing the beauty of under-exposed aspects of modern life to a greater public. I feel that this is my calling within the arts." A passionate collector and supporter of the arts, Wimberly has personally exhibited the work of more than 70 individual artists. Dexter Wimberly also maintains a critical dialogue with emerging artists throughout the world by way of group exhibitions, public programs, and lectures at institutions such as The Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Brooklyn Historical Society, the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (MoCADA), The Savannah College of Art and Design, The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and The Brooklyn Arts Council.

Larry Ossei-Mensah is an independent curator and cultural critic who has emerged as dynamic voice for the rising creative class. Ossei-Mensah is a modern day flâneur who documents cultural and contemporary art happenings for various publications such as Arise, Uptown, and Whitewall Magazine in addition to his personal blog My Global Hustle. His writings include profiles of Swizz Beatz, El Anatsui, Yinka Shonibare, Mickalene Thomas, Rashid Johnson, and Derrick Adams. In 2009, Ossei-Mensah was featured in the NY Times Styles section curated by the legendary Bill Cunningham "Celebrating Art and Music." The multihyphenate Ossei-Mensah was chosen for *Young Curators, New Ideas IV* in the summer of 2012 where he demonstrated a curatorial acumen that makes him one to watch. Ossei-Mensah received his BA from Clark University in Business Management and earned his MBA in Marketing from Les Roches in Switzerland. He currently serves on the acquisitions committee for the Guggenheim's Young Collectors Council and is on the board for ArtBridge. Ossei-Mensah lives in NYC.