



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Hammer has long been a place that values collaboration and over the years we have forged significant partnerships with various departments at UCLA as well as institutions across Los Angeles. UCLA's Film & Television Archive, Department of Art, and English Department have worked with us for years on film, lecture, and literary series and we have also on occasion worked with the Williams Institute at the Law School and the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies. In 2005 we collaborated with MOCA and organized the *Masters of American Comics* exhibition which took place at both venues and just this spring we acquired the Edition Jacob Samuel Archive and organized an exhibition about the archive with LACMA.

We are extremely happy to announce another exciting partnership—one with the dynamic and important non-profit art space, LA><ART. Founded by Lauri Firstenberg in 2005, LA><ART has made major contributions to LA's art scene by focusing its program on commissioning new work and organizing an array of public art initiatives. Together, beginning in 2012, the Hammer and LA><ART will present the first southern California biennial.

The biennial will follow the tradition of the Hammer Invitational—exhibitions which take place every two years and have included *Snapshot* (2001), *International Paper* (2003), *Thing* (2005), *Eden's Edge* (2007), *Nine Lives* (2009) and the upcoming *All of this and nothing* (winter 2011). Unlike the Invitationals, however, the biennial, will focus exclusively on

artists from the LA region with an emphasis on emerging artists and will be large in scope taking place at the Hammer and LA><ART as well as potential additional sites throughout the city. This collaboration comes on the heels of smaller initiatives between our two organizations including the recent collaboration with *Superclogger*—an amazing and very funny project by artist Joel Kyack. Joel will bring *Superclogger* to Westwood at the end of September and the Hammer will host a discussion about the project (see page 16). You will see more of these kinds of collaborations between our two organizations in the future.

My staff and I have always had great respect for LA><ART and for Lauri's ambitious program and we believe that by coming together with LA><ART in this endeavor we will better serve artists in our city as well as offer our audiences an exciting new view of the extraordinary work that is being made here. This formal affiliation with LA><ART is also a way for the Hammer to

support a smaller organization that we feel is a kindred spirit in their support of LA artists and whose priorities and mission are in line with our own.



Annie Philbin
Director