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HAUSER & WIRTH TO OPEN NEW YORK GALLERY IN SEPTEMBER 2009

ALLAN KAPROW'S *YARD* WILL LAUNCH AMBITIOUS EXHIBITION PROGRAM

New York, NY — 22 May 2009. Iwan Wirth, president and owner of Hauser & Wirth, the internationally acclaimed gallery of contemporary art and modern masters with exhibition spaces in Zürich and London, announced today the company will expand its global activities by opening a fully dedicated gallery in New York City in September 2009. Widely considered Europe's most influential gallery and described as 'a marketplace of ideas' by The Financial Times of London, Hauser & Wirth was founded in 1992.

Hauser & Wirth New York will be located at 32 East 69th Street, offering four full floors of new exhibition and event space at an address freighted with cultural significance: until 1970, the building was home to the legendary Martha Jackson Gallery, a pioneering force during the post-war American art scene and a legendarily powerful advocate for unfamiliar and challenging new art. Beginning in the 1950s, Martha Jackson adopted a daring global perspective, actively exhibiting artists from around the world, giving women artists such as Louise Nevelson their first solo shows, educating the public, and cultivating devoted collectors at a time when few thought to buy original contemporary works. Hauser & Wirth New York will operate in much the same spirit, seeking to serve, in the words of Martha Jackson, as 'an art dealer whose primary role is that of a mediator between the artist and society'.

The building at 32 East 69th Street also has housed Zwirner & Wirth, a secondary market showcase for modern masterworks operated in collaboration with noted Manhattan dealer David Zwirner since 2000. Over the past nine years, the Zwirner & Wirth collaboration has yielded a series of extraordinary, critically lauded exhibitions. Zwirner & Wirth will move its operations and exhibitions program to Chelsea. Named Zwirner, the gallery will occupy the ground floor of the Metal Shutter Houses designed by architect Shigeru Ban, and will open there in September.

Architect Annabelle Selldorf, principal of Selldorf Architects, will design the new Hauser & Wirth New York facilities on the Upper East Side.

Marc Payot, Hauser & Wirth partner and vice president, will serve as director in New York City.

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The new gallery will present a series of highly ambitious public exhibitions and events, spotlighting the work of some of the most respected and challenging artists of the day, introducing new work by emerging talents from around the world, and showcasing never before seen works by landmark artists whose estates are represented by Hauser & Wirth.

Hauser & Wirth New York will celebrate its public opening in September with *YARD*, a seminal Environment first made in 1961 by Allan Kaprow, the profoundly influential American painter, assemblagist and pioneer of performance art known as the inventor of 'Happenings.' Proclaiming 'The line between art and life should be kept as fluid, and perhaps indistinct, as possible,' Kaprow staged interactive events within and beyond the traditional museum and gallery context. More than forty years ago, he famously filled the backyard of a Manhattan townhouse with rubber auto tires heaped randomly for viewers to climb in and around. That work was *Yard* and the townhouse, then home to the Martha Jackson Gallery, was located at 32 East 69th Street, the address soon to be Hauser & Wirth New York.

'YARD' at Hauser & Wirth New York is curated by Helen Molesworth, head of the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art and the James R. and Maisie K. Houghton Curator of Contemporary Art at the Harvard Art Museums, working in close collaboration with the Estate of Allan Kaprow. The exhibition will include documentation and archival elements, and will be accompanied by a program of activities at Hauser & Wirth New York and other locations to be announced.

'It is fitting that our new gallery in New York City will be inaugurated in the site of Martha Jackson's legendary gallery with Allan Kaprow's *YARD*.' Iwan Wirth has commented. 'Four decades after it was first installed, the work engages the imagination, intellect and senses as much as ever. It still challenges our thinking about what art is and how it figures in our lives, and Kaprow continues to influence a vast range of artists, from established figures like Paul McCarthy to the very young, emerging crowd involved in reinventing performance and new media art.'

'Like Kaprow and every artist we represent, Hauser & Wirth is devoted first and foremost to an ongoing exploration of ideas and the possibilities of art as a transformational part of contemporary life. We consider our work to be a journey in the company of artists and all who are interested in what they have to say.'

Following 'YARD,' Hauser & Wirth New York will present the following exhibitions:

November 2009: PAUL McCARTHY *Snow White*

January 2010: IDA APPLEBROOG *Monalisa*

March 2010: EVA HESSE *Studio Works*

May 2010: RONI HORN a.k.a.

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About Hauser & Wirth

Hauser & Wirth is a global enterprise representing over 30 established and emerging contemporary artists, including **Ida Applebroog, Louise Bourgeois, Christoph Büchel, David Claerbout, Martin Creed, Berlinde De Bruyckere, Ellen Gallagher, Isa Genzken, Dan Graham, Rodney Graham, Subodh Gupta, Mary Heilmann, Andreas Hofer, Roni Horn, Richard Jackson, Hans Josephsohn, Rachel Khedoori, Bharti Kher, Guillermo Kuitca, Maria Lassnig, Paul McCarthy, John McCracken, Caro Niederer, Christopher Orr, Michael Raedecker, Pipilotti Rist, Anri Sala, Wilhelm Sasnal, Christoph Schlingensief, Roman Signer, Diana Thater, Ian Wallace, Zhang Enli, David Zink Yi, and Jakub Julian Ziolkowski.**

Hauser & Wirth also represents the estates of **Eva Hesse, Allan Kaprow, Lee Lozano, Jason Rhoades and André Thomkins**, as well as the **Henry Moore Family Collection**.

The gallery was founded in Zürich in 1992 by Iwan and Manuela Wirth and Ursula Hauser. Since 1996 it has been located in the former Löwenbrau brewery building, along with other contemporary art galleries, the Kunsthalle Zürich, and the Migros Museum.

In 2003, Hauser & Wirth opened Hauser & Wirth London on Piccadilly in an historic building designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, adding a new and energetic dimension to London's growing importance as an international art center. In 2006, Hauser & Wirth at Colnaghi was created on London's Old Bond Street. The facility hosts several exhibitions annually and functions as the gallery's secondary market center in the UK.

Hauser & Wirth is also known for its publishing activities and such landmark books as 'Louise Bourgeois. Nothing to Remember,' 'Berlinde De Bruyckere. In the Woods there were Chainsaws,' 'Roni Horn. bird', and 'Lee Lozano. Drawings.'

The general public can find additional information about Hauser & Wirth, its exhibitions programs, online at www.hauserwirth.com

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