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For Immediate Release

## **The Kitchen presents an evening with Hal Foster, Monday, November 28**

**Art historian and critic to discuss latest books, *The Art-Architecture Complex* and *The First Pop Age*, with The Kitchen's Tim Griffin**

New York, NY, November 14, 2011—On Monday, November 28, The Kitchen presents a special evening with leading art historian and critic **Hal Foster** in conversation with The Kitchen's Executive Director and Chief Curator **Tim Griffin**. Foster will also give brief presentations of his recently published books *The Art-Architecture Complex* (Verso) and *The First Pop Age: Painting and Subjectivity in the Art of Hamilton, Lichtenstein, Warhol, Richter, and Ruscha* (Princeton University Press). The evening will start at 7:00 P.M. at **The Kitchen (512 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street)**. Admission is free.

In *The Art-Architecture Complex*, Foster argues that a fusion of architecture and art is a defining feature of contemporary culture. While architects such as Zaha Hadid, Herzog and de Meuron draw on art to reanimate design, architecture has inspired fundamental transformations in painting, sculpture and film, which are also explored here. The book includes an extensive conversation with Richard Serra.

At the same time, Foster points to a “global style” of architecture, as practiced by Norman Foster, Richard Rogers and Renzo Piano, that is analogous to the “international style” of Le Corbusier, Gropius and Mies—a global style that, more than any art, conveys the look of modernity today, both its dreams and its delusions. In these ways, Foster demonstrates that “the art-architecture complex” is a key indicator of broader social and economic trajectories and in urgent need of analysis and debate.

*The First Pop Age* reveals how these seminal artists hold on to old forms of art while drawing on new subjects of media; how they strike an ambiguous attitude toward both high art and mass culture; and how they suggest that a heightened confusion between images and people is definitive of Pop culture at large.

As *The First Pop Age* looks back to the early years of Pop art, it also raises important questions about the present: What has changed in the look of screened and scanned images today? Is our media environment qualitatively different from that described by Warhol and company? Have we moved beyond the Pop age, or do we live in its aftermath?

**Hal Foster** is Townsend Martin Professor of Art and Archaeology at Princeton University. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, he was the 2010 recipient of the Clark Prize for Excellence in Arts Writing and the 2011 Siemens Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin. He is an editor at *October* magazine and October Books, editor of *The Anti-Aesthetic*:

*Essays on Postmodern Culture* and author of *Compulsive Beauty, Design and Crime, The Return of the Real, The First Pop Age* and *The Art-Architecture Complex*.

### **Funding Credits**

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### **About The Kitchen**

The Kitchen is one of New York City's oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists' talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:

212.255.5793 ext. 11

Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

The Kitchen

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[www.thekitchen.org](http://www.thekitchen.org)

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