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For Immediate Release

OPENING RECEPTION & COMMUNITY DAY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, NOON–5PM

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CELEBRATING THE NEWLY EXPANDED FACILITY AND OPENING OF *PUDDLE, POTHOLE, PORTAL* WITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Special Event:
SculptureCenter
Opening Reception and Community
Day

Long Island City, NY – SculptureCenter is pleased to announce a special event to celebrate the opening of its newly renovated and expanded facility and the inaugural exhibition *Puddle, pothole, portal* on October 5, 2014.

Date:
Sunday, October 5, 2014

The event will offer free family-friendly activities from noon–3pm in space donated by NestSeekers International including exhibition tours, nail art by **Vanity Projects**, a photo booth by **LAZY MOM** (artists Josie Keefe and Phyllis Ma), a comic book-making contest judged by artists Paul DeMuro and Meghan Turbitt, art-making activities with Alex Schmidt aka Body Positive, face painting, music, food from local vendors, and beverages from Rockaway Brewery Co.

Location:
Sculpture Street (Purves Street),
Long Island City
At the intersection of Jackson &
43rd Aves.

The program will begin with NYC Cultural Affairs Commissioner **Tom Finkelpearl** and New York City Council Majority Leader **Jimmy van Bramer** cutting a ribbon to open the newly expanded building. The ceremony, featuring the **Long Island City Music Academy Court Square Youth Choir**, will also celebrate the official **co-naming of Purves Street as Sculpture Street**.

Admission:
FREE

From 3–5pm, **Lemonade** will perform a DJ set in SculptureCenter's courtyard. Museum admission fees will be waived all afternoon.

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“We are delighted to introduce our newly expanded and improved building to our community in Long Island City and beyond,” notes Mary Ceruti, SculptureCenter's Executive Director and Chief Curator. “The event will give our visitors the chance to see how SculptureCenter will utilize our spaces as a platform to explore current and compelling themes in contemporary art originating in New York City and across the globe.”

BUILDING PROJECT

The expanded building, funded through significant public and private contributions, includes a new 2,000 square foot addition to the dramatic existing structure. A one-story entrance lobby will provide ticketing, orientation and visitor services such as a coatroom, restrooms and seating area. The expansion and renovation will significantly improve the quality of the exhibition spaces and visitor

circulation.

In addition to the new areas for the presentation of artwork and the new lobby space, a new retail space will feature SculptureCenter publications and hard to find titles relevant to the exhibitions; SculptureCenter's limited editions; and will highlight unique objects from local and international makers.

The renovation and addition is designed by **Andrew Berman Architect**, who has designed award-winning projects for institutions including the Center for Architecture, The New York Public Library and MoMA PS1. The plan honors the dramatic steel and brick structure of the existing building, initially renovated by artist/designer Maya Lin, while creating a stronger street presence through the introduction of a limited vocabulary of new materials including plywood and weathering steel.

OPENING EXHIBITION

Puddle, pothole, portal, curated by Ruba Katrib, Curator, SculptureCenter, and artist Camille Henrot, will fill the entire building to inaugurate the expansion and renovation. The exhibition will feature works, many of them newly created, by Olga Balema, Joachim Bandau, Camille Blatrix, Teresa Burga, Antoine Catala, Abigail DeVille, Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys, Judith Hopf, Jamian Juliano-Villani, Allison Katz, Mark Leckey, Maria Loboda, Win McCarthy, Danny McDonald, Marlie Mul, Mick Peter, Chadwick Rantanen, Lucie Stahl, Saul Steinberg, Keiichi Tanaami, Lina Viste Grønli and Jordan Wolfson.

Incorporating a sense of wonder and humor, concepts surrounding animation and cartooning are expanded into an exhibition that enacts a similar sort of hysteria around flatness and depth in relation to technologies, real and illusory spaces—physical, virtual, internal and external. Several of the exhibiting artists will engage the new spaces as Camille Blatrix's singing mailbox waits for an important letter to arrive, and once it does, you have to find the key to read it; Allison Katz opens a new dimension through a site-specific painting incorporating the architecture of the exhibition space; and Marlie Mul, superimposes images of band-aids onto the surrounding environment.

The exhibition will be on view from October 2, 2014 to January 5, 2015.

About SculptureCenter

Founded by artists in 1928, SculptureCenter is a not-for-profit arts institution in Long Island City, NY dedicated to experimental and innovative developments in contemporary sculpture. SculptureCenter commissions new works and presents exhibitions by emerging and established, national and international artists. Our programs identify new talent, explore the conceptual, aesthetic and material concerns of contemporary sculpture, and encourage independent vision.