

News Release

Press Office

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Installation by Artist Math Bass On View in Jewish Museum's Lobby

New York, NY, October 25, 2017 – The Jewish Museum presents [Math Bass: Crowd Rehearsal](#), on view in the Museum's Skirball Lobby from November 2, 2017 through March 18, 2018.

Los Angeles-based artist Math Bass (b. 1981) works across video and performance as well as painting and sculpture, which she executes in a distinctly graphic style. In her installation *Crowd Rehearsal*, a svelte, ladderlike sculpture draped with a coatlike painting is set against two canvases with nearly identical imagery. The title and forms suggest but do not show human bodies and actions.

Bass grew up in a Jewish home, regularly attending synagogue, where ceremonies, rituals, and text influenced her predilection for the shrouding, pictographs, and repetition that infuse *Crowd Rehearsal*. Cloaked forms and empty spaces punctuate these works, imbuing them with a sense of contingency or incompleteness. This resistance to fixity is in tension with her hard-edged, graphic style.

The paintings included in the installation are part of a series titled *Newz!*, which the artist began in 2012. Each painting shares a title whose letters—N, E, W, and Z—can be rotated to form Z, W, M, and N. These small shifts turn a comprehensible word into a collection of random letters and highlight the instability and mutability of meaning.

The exhibition is organized by Kelly Taxter, Associate Curator, The Jewish Museum.

Support

Math Bass: Crowd Rehearsal is made possible by the generous support of Wendy Fisher.

Artist's Talk

This is How We Do It: Math Bass

Thursday, November 2, 2017, 6:30 – 7 pm

Skirball Lobby

Kelly Taxter, Associate Curator, speaks with artist Math Bass about *Math Bass: Crowd Rehearsal* and the process of creating her site-specific installation for the Museum's lobby. [Free with RSVP](#)

About the Jewish Museum

Located on New York City's famed Museum Mile, the Jewish Museum is a distinctive hub for art and Jewish culture for people of all backgrounds. Founded in 1904, the Museum was the first institution of its kind in the United States and is one of the oldest Jewish museums in the world. Devoted to exploring art and Jewish culture from ancient to contemporary, the Museum offers diverse exhibitions and programs, and maintains a unique collection of nearly 30,000 works of art, ceremonial objects, and media reflecting the global Jewish experience over more than 4,000 years.

The Jewish Museum
1109 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10128
TheJewishMuseum.org

Location: 1109 Fifth Avenue at 92nd Street, New York City
Hours: Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, 11am to 5:45pm;
Thursday, 11am to 8pm; and Friday, 11am to 4pm.
Admission: \$15.00 for adults, \$12.00 for senior citizens, \$7.50 for

Under the auspices of
The Jewish Theological Seminary

Jewish Museum

students, free for visitors 18 and under and Jewish Museum members. Pay What You Wish on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm. Free on Saturdays.

Information: The public may call 212.423.3200 or visit TheJewishMuseum.org

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