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## **The BECA Foundation Welcomes Ellen Lupton, Curator of Contemporary Design, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution, to the International Curatorial Body of *CURATE THIS!* 2010**

December 15, 2009 – The BECA Foundation is pleased to welcome Ellen Lupton, legendary design educator and Curator of Contemporary Design, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution to the *CURATE THIS!* 2010 international curatorial body.

Ellen Lupton is a writer, curator, and graphic designer. Along with her curatorial practice at Cooper-Hewitt, she is also director of the Graphic Design MFA program at Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in Baltimore, where she also serves as director of the Center for Design Thinking. As curator of contemporary design at Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum since 1992, she has produced numerous exhibitions and books, including *Mechanical Brides: Women and Machines from Home to Office* (1993), *Mixing Messages: Graphic Design and Contemporary Culture* (1996), *Letters from the Avant-Garde* (1996), and *Skin: Surface, Substance + Design* (2002).

Lupton is a 2007 recipient of the AIGA Gold Medal, one of the highest honors given to a graphic designer or design educator in the U.S.

Ellen Lupton has contributed to various design magazines, including *Print*, *Eye*, *I.D.*, and *Metropolis*. She has a regular column, "The EI Word," in *Readymade* magazine. Her editorial illustrations have been published in *The New York Times*. Lupton is public-minded critic and frequent lecturer around the U.S. and the world.

Other exhibitions she has curated and co-curated include the National Design Triennial series (2000, 2003, 2006), *Feeding Desire: Design and the Tools of the Table, 1500–2005* (2006), *Solos: New Design from Israel* (2006), and *Graphic Design in the Mechanical Age* (1999), all at Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum.

The BECA Foundation is thrilled to have Ellen Lupton join them during this expansion of the ***CURATE THIS!*** exhibition series. The participating public, artists and designers will benefit greatly from Lupton's unique insight and the creative inspiration she offers.

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***CURATE THIS!* 2010**, the second installment of the ***CURATE THIS!*** exhibition series created by **BECA: Bridge for Emerging Contemporary Art**, has evolved from a one city-wide event location into a global arts + cultural exchange event involving multiple venues located in multiple cities around the world. The global art + design event and arts + cultural exchange will take place from July 1 – December 31, 2010. Through the introduction and exhibition of works of new art + new design and related projects by artists, designers, duos, groups and collectives around the world, The BECA Foundation aims to facilitate an experimental, cross-pollination of new ideas for creative innovation in diverse locations around the world. Further information may be viewed at [www.CurateThis.org](http://www.CurateThis.org)