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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 2007  
Media Contact: Barbara Levitov  
781-283-2034, [blevitov@wellesley.edu](mailto:blevitov@wellesley.edu)  
[www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu](http://www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu)

***“Don’t Look.” Contemporary Drawings from an Alumna’s Collection  
(Martina Yamin, Class of 1958)  
Exhibited at Reopening of Davis Museum and Cultural Center***

**Wellesley, MA** – The Davis Museum and Cultural Center at Wellesley College will reopen after being closed temporarily for repairs. The opening event on September 19 from 6-8 celebrates *“Don’t Look.” Contemporary Drawings from an Alumna’s Collection (Martina Yamin, Class of 1958)* as well as *Global Feminisms*, organized by the Brooklyn Museum, and Phase I of the reinstallation of the permanent collection.

*“Don’t Look.”* explores the revitalized state of drawing in contemporary art from multiple angles, looking at subject matter, conceptual frameworks, materials and formats, as well as the sensibility of the collector and the force of the marketplace. Fifty-six drawings from the collection of Wellesley alumna Martina Yamin, half of them by women artists, dating from 1953 to 2006, will be on view.

*“Don’t Look.”* showcases the collection of Martina Yamin, a conservator of works of art on paper and an avid collector of contemporary drawings. After earning her bachelor’s degree in art history from Wellesley in 1958, she worked for three years in the conservation lab at Harvard University’s Fogg Art Museum. Yamin established her private paper conservation practice in the early 1960s in Manhattan, where she continues to work with an impressive array of museums, galleries, collectors and artists. Her collection of drawings is still growing, and includes a diverse array of works by established and emerging artists including Yayoi Kusama, Lee Bontecou, Gerhard Richter, R. Crumb, Rosemarie Trockel, Marlene Dumas, Willie Cole, Tony Oursler, Ernesto Neto, Roxy Paine, Kara Walker, Danica Phelps, and Chun Seong.

In recent decades, the practice of drawing has increasingly come to play a major role in the work of contemporary artists. Traditionally defined as part of the process preparatory to another work of art (a painting or sculpture, for example), the terrain of drawing has shifted so that the drawing is very often an end in itself or may expand to encompass other media or formats. These parameters are being redefined at the same time that the boundaries between all art-making media have become more fluid. The works on view demonstrate these shifts as they tap into the worlds of popular culture, design, sexuality, identity, politics, and the imagination.

In Yamin's collecting career, looking is the key. "I'm a strong proponent of letting the art work its magic on you before you learn a lot about it," says Yamin. "It helps you formulate an opinion and put it into your own context. After that, it's wonderful to read labels and have tours—once you've looked. And then, you can look again with what you've learned."

*"Don't Look."* is the inaugural exhibition for the new Morell Lasky Levine '56 Works on Paper Gallery.

### **Catalogue**

A catalogue will be published in conjunction with the exhibition, with an interview of Martina Yamin by Jennifer Cawley (Class of 2007), essays by Elizabeth Wyckoff, Assistant Director of Curatorial and Education and Curator of Prints and Drawings, and Jordan Kantor, Associate Professor, Painting/Drawing and MFA Program in Fine Arts, California College of the Arts, and brief responses to each drawing written by the artist, her/his gallerist, an art historian or a Wellesley College professor.

### **Panel Discussion**

**Saturday, September 29 from 1:30 – 4 pm**

**Location: Collins Cinema**

In conjunction with *"Don't Look." Contemporary Drawings from an Alumna's Collection (Martina Yamin, Class of 1958)* there will be a panel discussion between a variety of experts and practitioners in the field of contemporary drawing: art professor, drawings curator, artist and gallerist.

A series of questions will frame a discussion about the role of drawing(s) today – in an artist's work, in the academy, the market and the world of collecting. Audience participation will be strongly encouraged.

*"Don't Look."* is funded by the Kemper Fund for Academic Programs, Davis Museum Program Endowment, and Elizabeth Bein Keto '48 Endowed Memorial Art Fund.

### **DAVIS MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER HOURS AND INFORMATION**

The Davis Museum is open Tuesday–Saturday, 11am–5pm, Wednesday until 8pm, Saturday 12noon to 5pm and Sunday 12noon–4pm. Closed Mondays and holidays. Admission is free. The Center is located on the Wellesley College campus, 106 Central Street in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Parking is free and available in the lot behind the museum. Additional parking is available in the Davis Parking Garage.

For docent tour information, please call 781-283-3382. The museum, Collins Café and Collins Cinema are wheelchair accessible and wheelchairs are available for use in the Museum without charge. Special needs may be accommodated by contacting the Director of Disability Services, Jim Wice at 781-283-2434 or at [jwice@wellesley.edu](mailto:jwice@wellesley.edu).

**FREE ADMISSION. FREE PARKING. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

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**MEDIA NOTE:** For more information, digital images, or to set up an interview with Elizabeth Wyckoff, Assistant Director of Curatorial and Education and Curator of Prints and Drawings, contact: Barbara Levitov at 781-283-2034 or [blevitov@wellesley.edu](mailto:blevitov@wellesley.edu)

