



**Franklin Sirmans**

Franklin Sirmans is the Terri and Michael Smooke Department Head and Curator of Contemporary Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. From 2006 to 2010, he was the Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at The Menil Collection in Houston, TX.

Prior to that, Sirmans worked as an independent curator, freelance writer and teacher at Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and Princeton University, after holding positions at Dia Center for the Arts and *Flash Art Magazine*.

Sirmans has written essays for publications such as *The New York Times*, *Time Out New York*, *Essence*, and *Grand Street*. He is the cocurator of the forthcoming exhibition *Vija Celmins: Television and Disaster*, (The Menil Collection and Los Angeles County Museum of Art), travels to LACMA, winter 2011.

He was the 2007 recipient of the David C. Driskell Prize awarded by the High Museum of Art, Atlanta and in 2009 was an inaugural honoree of the Gold Rush Awards by Rush Philanthropic Art Foundation.