

"Josiah McElheny: Some Pictures of the Infinite"

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
BOSTON

Through October 14

Curated by Helen Molesworth

With references from Paul Scheerbart to Josef Hoffmann, Mies van der Rohe to Yves Saint Laurent, Josiah McElheny has provided some of the most intriguing and important artistic contemplations of how the modernist legacy, high and low, survives within our post- postmodern era. Themed around the notion of the infinite, McElheny's survey exhibition covers the past two decades of his career, gathering some twenty glassworks, sculptures, films, and a performance, many of which continue his reflections (both metaphoric and literal) on modernity. Highlights include *Island Universe*, 2008, wherein Lobmeyr chandelier-like structures model universes that may have been created moments after the Big Bang, and *Study for The Center Is Everywhere*, 2012, in which hand-cut crystals signify galaxies and lightbulbs stand in for quasars. The accompanying catalogue features contributions by Molesworth, Maria Gough, and Bill Horrigan, as well as by artists Doug Ashford, Gregg Bordowitz, Moyra Davey, Andrea Geyer, Zoe Leonard, and R. H. Quaytman.

— *Branden W. Joseph*



Josiah McElheny, *Study for The Center Is Everywhere* (detail), 2012, cut lead crystal, electric lighting, hand-bound book; chandelier 32 x 84 x 32", book 7 x 10".