



NEW ADDITION: The Art Institute of Chicago's Modern Wing.

Art Expansion

CHICAGO—For years, the Art Institute of Chicago kept works by contemporary artists, such as Gerhard Richter and Bruce Nauman, hidden away in storage. The reason? A lack of exhibit space. But that changes May 16 with the opening of the museum's new 264,000-square-foot, Renzo Piano-designed Modern Wing, the largest addition in the museum's history.

Curators now will be able to display more pieces from modern masters. Thanks to the addition's "flying carpet" canopy that filters light into the museum, works by Picasso, Matisse and Dali will literally see the light of day again.

Several new pieces will take center stage on opening day, including Charles Ray's *Hinoki*, a 2,100-pound, 38-foot sculpture of a fallen tree that took 10 years and six master woodcarvers to complete. artic.edu ■ J. Eric Eckard