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COURTESY THE DRAWING CENTER

**YONA FRIEDMAN:
ABOUT CITIES**

The Drawing Center
35 Wooster Street
February 24 to April 7

True to the spirit of Yona Friedman's theories of directness, simplicity, and spontaneity in architecture, the first ever show of his work in the U.S. presents a series of his drawings in what he calls a "spatial collage." Since 1956, when Friedman presented his manifesto *Mobile Architecture*, he has researched the living conditions of people all over the world and developed ideas of improving urban life through getting people to participate in creating spaces they want to inhabit. He is also interested in using drawings as a means to communicate, and the more than 150 on view, based on the series *A Better Life in Towns* and *Spatial City*, are representative of what curator Katherine Carl calls Friedman's "economy of means, whether it's with lines or materials." Friedman set parameters for this exhibition that were developed in collaboration with Normal Architecture Office: A large cardboard structure zigzags through the gallery space, allowing visitors to walk through and read Friedman's photocopy drawings and pictograms almost like a comic book. In conjunction with the exhibition, a symposium on Friedman's legacy will take place on Tuesday, February 27, at The Drawing Center.

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