

**MCA
DEN
VER**

MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MCA DENVER FEATURES DAVID ADJAYE'S DESIGNS FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN HIS FIRST MAJOR EXHIBITION

DENVER, March 10, 2008 — MCA DENVER proudly presents *David Adjaye: Making Public Buildings*, opening March 11, 2008 and running through May 25, 2008. Although well known for his residential building designs, *Making Public Buildings* highlights David Adjaye's public projects. Adjaye's models and renderings for these structures, including the new MCA DENVER, will be shown throughout the Museum.

One of Britain's leading contemporary architects, David Adjaye's building designs reflect inspirations collected from travels around the world and from collaborations with artists like Olafur Eliasson and Chris Ofili. Familiar with the artistic process, Adjaye brings this sensitivity to the design of his first contemporary art museum – the new MCA DENVER. He contributes to the contemporary dialogue about social space and urban landscape through work that explores light, scale, measurement and material.

"Instead of an architecture that escapes into the margin, David Adjaye looks for strategies and practices that deal with modernity at large. The profession of architecture has to face the consequences of individualization, globalization, technology, mobility and media. Rather than dividing the world into the hard material of the thing, as in natural sciences, and into soft material, as in the discourses of social sciences, architecture needs an approach that brings these two cultures together." (Saskia Sassen, "Built Complexity and Public Engagements", *David Adjaye: Making Public Buildings*)

David Adjaye was born in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania in 1966. He lives and works in London, United Kingdom. Adjaye received a BA from South Bank University, London, UK and an M Arch from Royal College of Art, London, UK. He started his own practice, Adjaye Associates, in 1994, and in 2006 he was nominated for the Stirling Prize for his Whitechapel Idea Store in London. *Making Public Buildings* is his first major exhibition.

The ten public projects featured in this exhibition are: the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver; Idea Store, Chrisp Street, London; Nobel Peace Center, Oslo, Norway; Idea Store, Whitechapel, London; Art Pavilions with TBA-21 including pavilion with Olafur Eliasson at the Venice Biennale, 2005; Stephen Lawrence Centre, Deptford; Bernie Grant Centre, Tottenham; Rivington Place, Shoreditch; Market Hall in Wakefield; and Fairfield Housing, Hackney.

Programming Events

The Logan Conversations Series

A PLATFORM FOR CONTEMPORARY THOUGHT AS DIALOG

Underwritten by Vicki and Kent Logan

MCA DENVER's exhibiting artists engage in active discourse with fellow creative minds. Architect David Adjaye, in conversation with Taisto H. Mäkelä, Assistant Professor, College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado Denver. Exhibiting Artist Jasper de Beijer, in conversation with Cydney Payton, Executive Director and Chief Curator, MCA DENVER.

Tuesday March 11, 2008

5:30 to 6:30 PM

Exhibition Viewing, Cocktail Reception and Book Signing

6:30 TO 7:30 PM

The Logan Conversations

General Public \$20

Members \$10

Space is limited

RSVP to Michelle Reilly at micheller@mcadenver.org or 303.298.7554

Publication

A catalog is available accompanying this exhibition— *David Adjaye: Making Public Buildings* is edited by Peter Allison and includes essays by Kodwo Eshun and Nikolaus Hirsch that reflect on Adjaye's practice, significance and influences. Essays relating to the ten public building projects in this exhibition are accompanied by drawings, documents and photographs. *David Adjaye: Making Public Buildings* is published in hardback by Thames & Hudson, available at SHOP MCA for \$55.00.

Exhibition Support

David Adjaye – Making Public Buildings has been produced by Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK in collaboration with MCA DENVER, CO, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York and the Netherlands Architecture Institute, Maastricht, as well as Arario Gallery, China and Arario Gallery, Korea.

Currently on View

Collier Schorr, *STAR POWER: Museum as Body Electric*
October 28, 2007 – April 20, 2008
Photography Gallery

David Altmejd, *STAR POWER: Museum as Body Electric*
October 28, 2007 – May 11, 2008
Large Works Gallery

Yu Cheng Chou
February 19, 2008 – July 6, 2008
New Media Gallery

Jeff Starr: *The Wrath of Grapes*
February 26, 2008 – May 25, 2008
Project Gallery

David Adjaye, *Making Public Buildings*
March 11, 2008 – May 25, 2008
Whole Room

Jasper de Beijer
March 11, 2008 – August 3, 2008
Paperworks Gallery

About MCA DENVER

Following the European tradition of the *kunsthalle*, MCA DENVER is a non-collecting institution acting as an incubator for art and ideas, artistic exchange and dialogue. As Denver's first institution devoted entirely to contemporary art, MCA DENVER inaugurated its new environmentally sustainable facility designed by David Adjaye on October 28, 2007. The 27,000 square foot space, located in the Lower Downtown area, is on track to receive the distinction of Gold level Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The design of the building supports rather than defines the Museum's mission and demonstrates the Museum's commitment to sustainability. MCA DENVER marks David Adjaye's first public building in the U.S. as well as his first contemporary art museum worldwide.

Since opening, MCA DENVER has welcomed over 20,500 visitors to the new building to experience the Museum's exhibition program. Continuing our investment in exhibitions of artworks by local, national and international artists, MCA DENVER has five distinct galleries, three spaces for education, multiple sites for special projects/commissioned works and one live art and lecture hall as potential sites for work in all media. These galleries and spaces have been envisioned as platforms for multi-level curatorial possibilities. The exhibition areas are thus seen as a curatorial rubric for interaction between artists, works of art, curatorial practice and interpretive dialogue.

Location, Hours and Ticket Prices

MCA DENVER is located at 1485 Delgany on the corner of 15th Street and Delgany, DENVER, CO. Tel. (001) 303 298 7554. Museum hours are Tuesday through Thursday 10:00AM to 6:00PM, Friday 10:00AM to 10:00PM and Saturday and Sundays 10:00AM to 6:00PM. The Museum is closed on Mondays. General admission to the Museum is \$10.00, senior and student tickets are \$5.00. MCA DENVER offers \$1 off admission to visitors who come to the Museum via public transportation. Children under the age of 5 are admitted free.

Support

MCA DENVER receives annual support for its exhibitions and programs from members of the Director's and President's Circles, as well as from the following generous supporters at the \$5,000 and above: A.B. Hirschfeld Press, Inc., Caulkins Family Foundation, Colorado Council on the Arts, Compton Foundation, Inc., Connie Burwell White & William W. White Foundation, Continuum Partners, LLC, The Denver Foundation, Gates Corporation, Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado, General Service Foundation, The Janus Foundation, KEW Realty, KeyBank, Komorebi, LLC, NSO Press, Riverfront Park Community Foundation, Room & Board, Sage Hospitality Resources, SCFD, St. Mary Land & Exploration Company, Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, Thickman Foundation, Three Tomatoes Catering, and US Bank.

For more information about programs and exhibitions please visit www.mcadenver.org or contact Daniele Robson at (001) 303 298 7554 ex.224 or danieler@mcadenver.org.