



MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MCA DENVER PRESENTS NEW LARGE SCALE PAINTING BY JONAS BURGERT IN THE PROMENADE SPACE

DENVER, October 3, 2008 — MCA DENVER proudly presents Jonas Burgert's new 4x6 meter painting *Zweiter Tag Nichts (Second Day Nothing)* in the Promenade Space. The exhibition opens October 7, 2008 and runs through March 1, 2009. A public reception will be held on Friday, October 10 from 6-10pm.

Second Day Nothing by Jonas Burgert is a monumental work with a narrative that recalls the cataclysmic worlds of Dutch master Hieronymus Bosch (c. 1450 - 1516). Equally accomplished in the command of space and mood through color, Burgert presents a fantastic scene of figures caught in the aftermath of what appears to have been an urban accident. The hole in the plaza grid reveals an acidic green liquid. While people are struggling to escape or have succumbed to their fight, others are busy collecting the spill in buckets. Burgert's work shows the disparity in human nature faced with a crisis and suggests underlying personal meaning and broader interpretations.

"From the Ganges to the Rhine, from Manna to gold—the possible inspirations are multiple and add content from diverse ideologies and cultures. Burgert's method, however, is not mere appropriation. He is not illustrating old myths, nor is he quoting them; there is no direct indication to Tintoretto, nor pointer to Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*. His method is an amalgamation and new creation of narrative. Intuitively, he develops new myths and metaphors which may lean on historic examples, creating new content. His paintings tell stories—paradigms, both known and unknown up to now, that create new mysteries about archaic forces that still drive us."

~Christoph Heinrich, "Carrying the Fire", *Jonas Bugert, Enigmatic Narrative*

Jonas Burgert was born in Berlin, Germany in 1969, where he lives and works. He received an MA from the Academy of Fine Arts (UdK) Berlin, Germany. Selected exhibitions include Hamburger Kunsthalle, Germany; Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom and Folkwang Museum, Essen, Germany.

Works by Jonas Burgert are also on view at our partner members of Contemporary Art Colorado at the Victoria H. Myhren Gallery at the University of Denver until November 23, 2008 and at the Denver Art Museum through mid-2010.



Above: Jonas Burgert, *Zweiter Tag Nichts (Second Day Nothing)*, 2008, oil on canvas, 157½" x 236¼".
Courtesy of the artist and Vicki and Kent Logan. Photo by Lepkowski Studios, Berlin.

Currently on View

Omer Fast
July 22, 2008 – January 4, 2009
New Media Gallery

Adam Helms
August 12, 2008 – January 18, 2009
Paperworks Gallery

Jane Hammond
August 19, 2008 – February 8, 2009
Photography Gallery

Terry Maker
September 16, 2008 – January 18, 2009
Project Gallery

Jonas Burgert
October 7, 2008 – March 1, 2009
Promenade Space
Opening Reception: October 10, 2008

Damien Hirst
October 10, 2008 – August 30, 2009
Large Works Gallery
Opening Reception: October 10, 2008

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 45,000 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 Sunday 10:00AM to 6:00PM. The Museum is closed on Monday. 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. The first Saturday of every month is Penny Saturday, a day when MCA DENVER invites everyone to take part in the Museum experience for only one cent.

Support

The Damien Hirst exhibit is sponsored by Scott Miller & Tim Gill, Alan Becker, Ellen Bruss & Mark Falcone, Mary Caulkins & Karl Kister, Noël & Tom Congdon, Philae & Peter Dominick, Joanne & Ronnie Katz, Carol Keller, Pat Reynolds & Peter Kirsch and Emily Sinclair & Jay Kenney.

MCA DENVER receives annual support for its exhibitions and programs from members of the Director's and President's Circles, as well as the following generous supporters at the \$5,000 level and above: A.B. Hirschfeld Press, Inc.; AIA DENVER; Caulkins Family Foundation; Colorado Council on the Arts; Compton Foundation, Inc.; Connie Burwell White & William W. White Foundation; Consulate General of the Netherlands; Continuum Partners, LLC; The Denver Foundation; Gates Corporation; Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado; General Service Foundation; The Janus Foundation; KEW Realty; KeyBank; Komorebi, LLC; Mondriaan Foundation; 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.