

**MCA
DEN
VER**

MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Daniele Robson
Communications Manager

MCA DENVER

1485 Delgany Denver CO 80202
(001) 303 298 7554

MCA DENVER PRESENTS JASPER DE BEIJER IN HIS FIRST US MUSEUM EXHIBITION

DENVER, March 10, 2008 — MCA DENVER proudly announces Jasper de Beijer in the Paperworks Gallery. This exhibition opens March 11, 2008 and runs through August 3, 2008, with a public reception on Friday, March 14 for 6-10pm. Large photographs from four of de Beijer's series will be displayed, and for the first time the paper constructions from which his photographs are created are also on view. This is de Beijer's first exhibition in a US museum.

Jasper De Beijer finds inspiration in records and photographs of distant and recent history, ranging from Japanese modern and traditional culture to memories of Pacific island rubber industries and First World War photography. Reconstructing this detritus into scale models in paper from which he creates his works, de Beijer brings the past back to life and leaves a new record of his re-interpretation. These constructions – usually regarded as preparatory studies – are being exhibited for the first time. It is an often-explored idea in contemporary art to re-stage and re-live a complex situation in order to better understand it. De Beijer takes this a step further, by recreating scenes and figures and then physically placing them in our presence. We are no longer observers of historical records, but experience past fates and emotions in our own time and surroundings.

"The world of the scale model is also very constricted, very artificial. The sense that there are different realities running through each other means you never really know which reality ends where. But at any rate, you are aware of looking at a handmade world... photography is concerned with the interpretation of reality, by showing it in a different light." (Jasper de Beijer in an interview by Erik Bos, *The Devil Drives*)

De Beijer was born in 1973 and lives and works in Amsterdam, Netherlands. He studied at the Hogeschool voor de Kunsten Utrecht and at the Amsterdamse Hogeschool voor de Kunsten. He has had solo exhibitions at TZR Galerie, Düsseldorf, Germany; Gallery Nouvelles Images, The Hague, NL and others. Group exhibitions include Zoo Art Fair, Chung King Project, London, UK; Art Cologne, Germany and *Second Nature*, Fette's Gallery, Los Angeles.

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

Open Shelf Book Club

Thursday March 13, 2008

6:00 PM

Jasper de Beijer and members of MCA DENVER will discuss the artist's Open Shelf (a library shelf containing materials that influenced and inspired the artist) as well as his book selection *Journey to the End of the Night* by Louis Ferdinand Celine. His Open Shelf selections include the *Complete Stories and Poems of Edgar Allen Poe*, *Journey to the End of the Night* by Louis Ferdinand Celine and the film *Fitzcarraldo*.

Exhibition Support

Sponsored in part by the Mondriaan Foundation, Netherlands and by the Consulate General of The Netherlands, Dutch Cultural Servies, New York, NY.

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.