



MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MCA DENVER PRESENTS INSTALLATIONS BY BRAD KAHLHAMER IN THE PROMENADE SPACE

DENVER, June 10, 2008 — The Museum of Contemporary Art Denver proudly announces Brad Kahlhamer in the Promenade Space, curated by Cydney Payton, Executive Director and Chief Curator of MCA DENVER. This exhibition includes watercolors as well as cardboard and bronze sculptures. The exhibition opens June 10, 2008 and runs through September 21, 2008. A public reception featuring the artist will be held on Friday, June 13 from 6-10pm. A Logan Conversation featuring Brad Kahlhamer, Cydney Payton and Dean Sobel (Director of the Clyfford Still Museum) will be held on Tuesday, June 10 from 6:30-7:30pm.

Both Rapid City and Prairie Girls by Brad Kahlhamer blend sex and death, urban and rural, artificial and natural, and dark and light. For Kahlhamer, the hidden language of things in-between is everything. His paintings and works on paper display an exuberant expressionistic line and mix the energy of country western music with Native American symbolism and subversive figuration that can include strippers and skeletons, as seen in his installations at MCA DENVER. A newly cast 9 1/2 foot tall bronze totem pole is on view for the first time. His installation projects take on a character that reads as landscape, swirling with an atavistic energy—as if a sound accompanies their visual rhythm.

“Kahlhamer’s paintings are an arena for him to explore the world of his ancestors and to create his own hybrid landscape that fuses his heritage with his own contemporary experience. He thinks of his paintings as his “third place”, as distinct from the “first place” of his conventional American upbringing with his adoptive parents, and the “second place” of his Native American heritage. Kahlhamer creates his own personal America in his work, scrambling the real and the imaginary. The prominent use of red, white, and blue in his works represents his own version of the American flag, constructed out of sky, water, and the American earth. Colors have specific symbolism in Kahlhamer’s paintings: Black is the East; his towers of black amplifiers stand in for skyscrapers and urban development. Blue is for sky, the wind, and velocity. Browns and reds are for earth and flesh. Yellow is for understanding. Transparency and openness are about possibility. ” -Jeffrey Deitch, “Brad Kahlhamer’s Friendly Frontier”, *Brad Kahlhamer*, Edizioni Charta, 2007.

Kahlhamer was born in 1956. He lives and works in New York City. He received a BFA from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. He has exhibited at Scottsdale Contemporary Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ; Deitch Projects, New York, NY and Stuart Shave/Modern Art, London, UK among many others.



Above: Brad Kahlhamer, *Brooklyn Massive*, 2007, watercolor and ink on paper, 44 1/2 x 59 3/4 inches. Courtesy of Stuart Shave/Modern Art, London and Deitch Projects, New York.

Programming Events

Logan Conversation

Tuesday, June 10

5:30 to 6:30 PM

Exhibition Viewing, Cocktail Reception & Book Signing with Brad Kahlhamer

6:30 to 7:30 PM

The Logan Conversation

MCA DENVER's exhibiting artists engage in active discourse with fellow creative minds. Brad Kahlhamer, exhibiting artist in The Promenade Space, will converse with Cydney Payton, Executive Director & Chief Curator, MCA DENVER, and Dean Sobel, Director of the Clyfford Still Museum. Underwritten by Vicki and Kent Logan.

General Public \$20, Members \$10, Space is limited. RSVP to Guin Frehling, 303 298 7554 or purchase tickets online at www.mcadenver.org

Opening Reception Featuring the Artist

Friday June 13, 2008

6PM – 10PM

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SYNAESTHETICSOUND

Friday June 13, 2008

7:30PM – 10PM

After Test Site Project #1, a party will be held on the roof and in the MCA CAFE, including music as part of MCA DENVER's SYNAESTHETICSOUND, a Friday night music series featuring experimental sounds from local artists.

Currently on View

Yu Cheng Chou

February 19, 2008 – July 6, 2008

New Media Gallery

Jasper de Beijer

March 11, 2008 – August 3, 2008

Paper Works Gallery

Trevor Appleson

April 29, 2008 – August 10, 2008

Photography Gallery

Susanne Kühn

May 27, 2008 – September 21, 2008

Large Works Gallery

Jack Balas

June 3, 2008 – September 7, 2008

Project Gallery

Brad Kahlhamer

June 10, 2008 – November 16, 2008

Promenade Space

Upcoming Exhibitions

Omer Fast

July 22 – September 28, 2008

New Media Gallery

Adam Helms

August 12, 2008 – January 18, 2009

Paper Works Gallery

Jane Hammond

August 19, 2008 – January 4, 2009

Photography Gallery

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WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

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 31,000 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 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

The Logan Conversations are sponsored in part by the Gay and Lesbian Fund for Colorado and St. Mary Land & Exploration, in honor of Tom Congdon.

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.