

**MCA
DEN
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MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MCA DENVER PRESENTS LEIPZIG PAINTER SUSANNE KÜHN IN THE LARGE WORKS GALLERY

DENVER, May 23, 2008 — The Museum of Contemporary Art Denver proudly announces Susanne Kühn in the Large Works Gallery, curated by Cydney Payton, Executive Director and Chief Curator of MCA DENVER. This exhibition of recent paintings opens May 27, 2008 and runs through August 10, 2008, with a public reception on Friday, May 30 from 6-10pm. Six of her large-scale canvases, including 2 diptychs, occupy the Congdon Family Large Works Gallery, which was formerly filled with mirrors during David Altmejd's installation.

Susanne Kühn represents the next generation of artists from Germany with reemerging interests in figurative narrative abstraction. Kühn challenges the group known as the New Leipzig School that includes Neo Rauch, Matthias Weischer, Martin Kobe, David Schnell, and Christoph Ruckhäberle, by bringing her experience living and studying in America to the fore. Kühn's work offers painterly and formal connections between figures, landscape, and architecture through a vocabulary that is emblazed with gorgeous light and informed by German art and history. This solo exhibition of paintings and drawings was organized by MCA DENVER in collaboration with Kunstverein Freiburg, Germany. This exhibition is sponsored by the Baz Family, with special thanks to Goff + Rosenthal Gallery, New York.

Regarding Kühn's reconciliation of public and private histories, and in reference to the influence of French Romanticism on her work, Kühn explains, "In a way, I do consider a painting by Théodore Géricault as public history. It becomes private, because after I saw it, it's now stored forever in my memory, ready to be processed. In everyday life I am flooded with multiple cultures, younger and older art, art which has moved into our everyday life items, such as Playmobil toys (my son's) which mimic knights and castles from 500 years ago, or tea towels which display comic cats (a gift from my friend). In my work I am investigating those border/threshold/overlapping situations. In my recent paintings I started to add architecture to my vocabulary. It is not any architecture, but old paintings by Bastiano Mainardi or Filippo Lippi." (Susanne Kühn and Cydney Payton, "Interview with Susanne Kühn," *Susanne Kühn*)

Kühn – born in Leipzig, Germany in 1969 – lives and works in Freiburg, Germany. She received an MFA from the Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst Leipzig, Germany and completed postgraduate studies at the School of Visual Arts, Hunter College, New York. She has had solo exhibitions at Kunstverein Freiburg, Germany; Galerie Kleindienst, Leipzig, Germany; Echolot, Berlin, Germany and Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA among others.



Above: Susanne Kühn, *Katja – Melancholie* (Katja – Melancholy), 2007, diptych, pigment, dispersion and acrylic on canvas, 86 1/5 x 126 inches. Private Collection.

Publication

A catalog is available accompanying this exhibition— *Susanne Kühn* contains contributions by Susanne Kühn, Felicity Lunn, Cydney Payton and Tom Morton. This first comprehensive monograph features a personal interview with the artist, critical essays on her work and a wealth of vivid color plates depicting works from 2003 until today. *Susanne Kühn* is published in hardback by Hatje Cantz, and is available at SHOP MCA for \$49.95.

Programming Events

Opening Reception

Friday May 30, 2008
6PM – 10PM

Test Site Project #1

Friday May 30, 2008
6PM – 7:30PM

The Museum of Contemporary Art Denver and Cara Reeser invite the public to participate in a performance art project at the Museum on Friday May 30, 2008 at 6PM. Participants, who are invited to arrive dressed in summer sports attire, will gather in The Lane next to MCA DENVER. They will be guided by volunteers to participate in a series of movement-based performance activities held throughout the Museum.

SYNAESTHETICSOUND

Friday May 30, 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

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

Paper Works Gallery

Trevor Appleson

April 29, 2008 – August 10, 2008

Photography Gallery

Susanne Kühn

May 27, 2008 – September 21, 2008

Large Works Gallery

Upcoming Exhibitions

Jack Balas

June 3, 2008 – September 7, 2008

Project Gallery

Brad Kahlhamer

June 10, 2008 – November 16, 2008

Promenade Space

Adam Helms

August 12, 2008 – January 18, 2009

Paper Works Gallery

MCA DENVER OPEN TO ALL

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

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.