

MCA  
DEN  
VER

## MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CONTACT

Ali Hodkowski  
alih@mcadenver.org  
303 298 7554 x 224 (work)  
303 594 1724 (mobile)

### MCA DENVER

1485 Delgany Denver CO 80202

\*\*\*EMBARGOED UNTIL FEBRUARY 9, 2010, 5:00PM\*\*\*

### MCA DENVER HIRES CURATOR ADJUNCT CURATOR NORA BURNETT ABRAMS JOINS MCA DENVER STAFF

**DENVER, February 9, 2010** – The Museum of Contemporary Art Denver (MCA Denver) is pleased to announce the appointment of Nora Burnett Abrams as Associate Curator. Abrams comes to MCA Denver from New York City, where she was working on her Ph.D. at the Institute of Fine Arts. Since August 2009, Abrams has been assisting with exhibitions at MCA Denver as an adjunct curator, working from her home in New York until her move to Denver at the beginning of this year.

“Nora brings both impeccable academic credentials and an outstanding ability to make contemporary art accessible to wide audiences,” said director Adam Lerner. “Working with her on two exhibitions, I quickly saw that Nora was unique among her peers nationally. Her hire is a major step in realizing MCA Denver’s vision of building our national stature while providing our local community with engaging exhibitions and educational programs.”

In addition to her work with MCA Denver, Abrams has experience working on exhibitions at major institutions including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, New York, and the Grey Art Gallery, at New York University. She has assisted with significant exhibitions such as *Matisse Picasso* at MOMA and *Robert Rauschenberg: Combines* at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She taught art history at New York University and has lectured widely on modern and contemporary art. She has an M.A. from Columbia University and a B.A. from Stanford University.

“Nora Abrams is a major young scholar who promises to raise curatorial practice and discourse around contemporary art to a new level,” said Harry Cooper, Curator of Modern & Contemporary Art, at the National Gallery of Art. “We can expect great things from MCA Denver.”

Abrams is currently working on solo exhibitions for MCA Denver of painter Isca Greenfield-Sanders for Fall 2010 and Dario Robleto for Winter 2011.

## **Currently on View**

### *Looking for the Face I Had Before the World Was Made*

A museum-wide study on the metaphysics of portraiture featuring artists Samuel Beckett, Michaël Borremans, Eric and Heather ChanSchatz, Lorraine O'Grady, A.G. Rizzoli and William Stockman. On view through May 23, 2010.

## **About MCA Denver**

MCA Denver is a non-collecting institution acting as an incubator for art and ideas, artistic exchange, and dialog. 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, received 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.

Continuing 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 dialog.

## **Museum Location, Hours and Ticket Prices**

MCA Denver is located at 1485 Delgany on the corner of 15th Street and Delgany, Denver, CO. Tel. 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 6 are admitted free.

## **MCA Denver Annual Support**

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 institutional supporters at the \$5,000 level and above: 1900 16th Street at the Millennium Bridge; 5280 Denver's Magazine; American Recovery and Reinvestment Act; Arete Foundation;

Bonfils-Stanton Foundation; Canwest; Caulkins Family Foundation; Colorado Council on the Arts; The Denver Foundation; Denver Office of Cultural Affairs; Dickler Family Foundation; Ellen Bruss Design; Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado; HBB Foundation; JFM Foundation; Kennedy Associates Real Estate Counsel, LP; KEW Realty; KeyBank; Komorebi, LLC; KPMG; Liberty Global, Inc; Liberty Media Co.; MetLife Foundation; National Endowment for the Arts; NSO Press; the perfect petal; The Ponzio Family Foundation; The Richard W. Wright & Ruth Drinkwater Wright Charity; Riverfront Park Community Foundation; Room & Board; Sage Hospitality Resources; Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation; Three Tomatoes Catering; US Bank; Wells Fargo and Xcel Energy Foundation.

MCA Denver wishes to further thank Vicki & Kent Logan for their generous three-year commitment to support the Logan Conversation Series. Additionally, MCA Denver appreciates the citizens of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District for their support.

###