



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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Warhol Foundation Funds Missoula Art Museum Installation Series

Missoula, MT / The Missoula Art Museum (MAM) is proud to announce a \$75,000 grant awarded by the Warhol Foundation. The grant was awarded to fund a series of artists' installations over a two-year period, 2007-08, in MAM's newly renovated and expanded galleries.

In fulfilling its mission to educate and challenge through contemporary art, MAM has invited six artists to the museum for a residency. During their time in Missoula in 2007, the artists will meet MAM staff, become familiar with Montana's creative, cultural and professional communities and explore the exhibiting possibilities at the new MAM. Following the artist's initial visit, ongoing discussions and planning between the artists and MAM curatorial staff will formulate specific installation plans. The artists will then return to MAM to create their site-specific artworks.

INVITED ARTISTS:

Brad Allen, Missoula, MT; Assistant Professor of Sculpture, The University of Montana. Allen is part of a tight-knit international community of artists pushing the uses of cast iron. He complements his objects with found footage and multi media experiments.

Julia Becker, Great Falls, MT; Professor of Art, University of Great Falls. Becker's work confronts issues of identity and cultural experience. Widely traveled, she recently completed a museum installation of video, sound, and objects based on journeys to India.

Jim Hodges, New York, NY. Hodges is internationally renowned, but connected to the Northwest. He graduated from Gonzaga University in Spokane (the nearest city to Missoula), has spent time in Missoula, and he is represented in MAM's Collection. He is keen to apply his uncanny approach to architectural spaces to MAM's new building.

Bently Spang (Northern Cheyenne), Billings, MT. Spang is one of the most versatile artists in the region. His fluency as a maker of objects, installations, and performances has been recognized by Creative Capital. Spang's work is included in MAM's Collection.

Katy Stone, Seattle, WA. Stone presented her first museum exhibition with MAM in 2001. She builds sensitive sculptural installations from painted shadows and translucent layers. Stone is represented by the Greg Kucera Gallery but exhibits coast-to-coast.

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Marie Watt (Iroquois/Haudenosaunee), Portland, OR; Professor of Art, Portland Community College. Self-identified as “half Cowboy and half Indian”, Watt creates installations defying this region’s romantic art history. Influenced by Iroquois matrilineal culture, Watt has demonstrated a willingness to share her process with the community.

About MAM: FREE EXPRESSION / FREE ADMISSION. Founded in 1975 and accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1987, MAM’s exhibitions showcase diverse and thought-provoking work from local and international artists. Gallery Hours: Tues-Fri, 11AM-6PM, until 7PM on Thursdays, Sat, 10AM-3PM.

MAM Mission: *The Missoula Art Museum educates, challenges and inspires the community through contemporary art. MAM preserves our emerging cultural heritage through the development and conservation of its art collection.*

Contact:

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