

TACOMA ART MUSEUM
1701 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Tacoma Art Museum Announces Call to Artists for 9th Northwest Biennial

Online Submission Deadline is Midnight Saturday, July 26

www.TacomaArtMuseum.org/biennial and www.callforentry.org

(Tacoma, WA) – Tacoma Art Museum is accepting entries for the *9th Northwest Biennial* from Saturday, June 14 through Saturday, July 26, 2008, via the CaFÉ (Call for Entry) online application process. The *Biennial* is open to current residents of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. (Tacoma Art Museum employees, trustees, and their families are not eligible.) Only work created since January 2007 will be considered. Artists working in a wide variety of media, including traditional forms, craft-based work, conceptual, performance, installation, and digital projects, are encouraged to apply. There is a nonrefundable \$25 entry fee. Applications will be juried by Alison de Lima Greene, Curator of Contemporary Art and Special Projects at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and Rock Hushka, Director of Curatorial Administration and Curator of Contemporary and Northwest Art at Tacoma Art Museum. **Deadline for entries is midnight on Saturday, July 26, 2008.**

The *9th Northwest Biennial* will focus on the current aesthetic and conceptual concerns addressed by regional artists. "Northwest artists adapt and shed ideas, media, and imagery to define themselves as artists while reinventing or restating the core notion of a Northwest artist," said Hushka. "Because the concept of 'regional art' continually collapses and rebuilds, the subtle shifts in the imagery, stylistic impulses, and conceptual foundations reveal how the region's artist community participates in the broad dialogue of contemporary art."

Online Submission Process

Unlike previous Tacoma Art Museum biennial application processes, this year's will be conducted entirely online via the CaFÉ (Call for Entry) application service. All applications must be submitted via the CaFÉ Web site at www.callforentry.org by midnight on July 26, 2008.

Tacoma Art Museum will not accept applications directly. Before applying, artists must register on the CaFÉ Web site and create a free profile. Artists not familiar with CaFÉ are encouraged to allow time to learn about the service's functionality and requirements. Submissions must include a CaFÉ application that is completed online; a resume listing exhibition history, publications and reviews, and gallery representation, if any; an artist statement of no more than 500 words, and eight digital images formatted according to CaFÉ's requirements. The \$25 entry fee must accompany the application. Payment may be made by credit card or check. Checks must be mailed separately to Tacoma Art Museum and postmarked no later than Monday, July 28, 2008.

Complete guidelines, including tips on editing images for submission and a timeline of the biennial selection process, are available online at www.TacomaArtMuseum.org/biennial and www.callforentry.org. Artist questions may be directed to biennial@TacomaArtMuseum.org or 253.272.4258 x4001.

As a special offer, artists who submit applications for the biennial on CaFÉ can purchase an Individual membership (\$50 value) with Tacoma Art Museum for \$10. Membership status does not affect the jury's selection process.

About the Jurors

Alison de Lima Greene is Curator of Contemporary Art and Special Projects at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, where she has been on the curatorial staff since 1984. Before moving to Texas, Greene worked in the department of European Paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She earned a master's degree in art history from New York University's Institute of Fine Arts. Among the numerous exhibitions she has organized are *Czech Modernism: 1900-1945*; *Arman: A Retrospective*; *Twentieth-Century American Sculpture at the White House*, and a survey of Kenneth Noland paintings. Her publications include *Texas: 150 Works from the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*, a collection catalogue profiling the museum's Lillie and Hugh Roy Cullen Sculpture Garden designed by Isamu Noguchi, and a survey of the MFAH's 25-year Core Program for resident artists and writers.

Rock Hushka is Director of Curatorial Administration and Curator of Contemporary and Northwest Art at Tacoma Art Museum. In 1994, Hushka earned a master's degree in art history from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He worked at the Henry Art Gallery, the Seattle Art Museum, and has worked at Tacoma Art Museum since 2001. At Tacoma Art Museum, he has curated *Bill Viola: Something Above, Beyond, Below, Beneath* and *The New York School: The Politics of Abstraction*. He has increasingly focused on the art of the Northwest, including the four-part *Building Tradition: Gifts in Honor of the Northwest Collection*; *A Decade of Excellence: Celebrating The Neddy Artist Fellowship*; and *The Romantic Vision of Michael Brophy*. He was a co-juror for the *8th Northwest Biennial* in 2007.

Tacoma Art Museum connects people and builds community through art. The museum serves the diverse communities of the region through its collection, exhibitions, and learning programs, emphasizing art and artists from the Northwest. The museum's five galleries display an array of top national shows, the best of Northwest art, creatively themed exhibitions, and historical retrospectives. In addition, there is an Education Wing for children, adults, and seniors with an art resource center, classroom, and studio for art making. Tacoma Art Museum is located in Tacoma's Museum District, near the Museum of Glass, the Washington State History Museum, and historic Union Station.

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HOURS – Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 5pm, Third Thursdays 10am – 8pm, Sunday 12 – 5pm. Open Mondays Memorial Day through Labor Day.

ADMISSION – Adult \$7.50, Student/Military/Senior (65+) \$6.50, Family \$25 (2 adults and up to 4 children under 18). Children 5 and under free. Third Thursdays free. Members always free.

CONTACT – 253.272.4258, www.TacomaArtMuseum.org, info@TacomaArtMuseum.org