

# CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN



Washington  
Project for the Arts

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### CORCORAN AND WASHINGTON PROJECT FOR THE ARTS ANNOUNCE FULL *TAKE IT TO THE BRIDGE* SCHEDULE Series Ongoing Through September 15

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design and Washington Project for the Arts announce a call for local and regional artists (DC, MD, VA, WV, PA, DE) present *Take It to the Bridge*, a new, nine-week series of exhibitions, performances, installations, and interventions in the Performance Bridge inside the Corcoran’s glass entryway on 17th Street. Installations will open on Wednesdays and remain on view through that Sunday. Performances will take place on Saturdays, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The first seven weeks of the series coincide with [Free Summer Saturdays](#), which run from May 26 – September 1, 2012.

For *Take it to the Bridge*, eleven artists will present nine installations and performances, investigating the Bridge’s physical characteristics and pushing the boundaries of this non-traditional space to explore a variety of social, political, and aesthetic issues. Artist proposals were juried by performance artist Holly Bass; Lisa Gold, executive director of Washington Project for the Arts; and Sarah Newman, curator of Contemporary Art, Corcoran Gallery of Art.

In conjunction with *Take it to the Bridge*, Esa Nickle, Managing Director/ Producer of Performa, will give a FREE public talk on Thursday, August 9 at 7 p.m. at the Corcoran’s Frances and Armand Hammer Auditorium. Performa is a New York-based organization that sponsors an internationally acclaimed biennial of new visual art performance. During this lecture, she discusses new directions in performance and Performa’s work from 2005 to 2011. For more information and to register, visit <https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/performa>.



**Wednesday-Sunday, July 18-22 (installation; all museum hours)**

**[Maya Freelon Asante](#), *Ubuntu***

Asante's tissue paper installation gives the illusion of a weightless floating sculpture. Ubuntu is a classical African concept that means "I am because we are."

**Saturday, July 28 (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)**

**[Chajana Denharder](#), *Sleep***

The artist states, "Often performance art tries to draw as much attention as possible. My instinct for this piece is to get quiet, to maybe go unnoticed, to try and relax, to sleep, and to not entertain. To just be."

**Saturday, August 4 (installation; all museum hours)**

**[Jennifer Coster](#), *Canaries in McMansionland***

An installation featuring live birds that investigates, in the artist's words, "visible and invisible systems, quiet directional devices, and everyday monuments of Americana."

**Saturday, August 11 (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)**

**[Kathryn Cornelius](#), *Save the Date***

This performance explores the life cycle of marriage and divorce, and the wedding ceremony's complex mix of private emotion, public spectacle, social expectation, and state power. The artist will marry—and divorce—no less



than seven suitors over the course of the performance. Yes, there will be cake. Propose to Kathryn via [her Tumblr site](#). Follow her preparations via [her Twitter feed](#). In lieu of wedding gifts, please visit [her Honeyfund page](#).

**Saturday, August 18 (12 p.m. – 5 p.m.)**

**[Sarah Levitt/Dance Exchange](#), *Procedures for Ground Loss Safety***

Taking inspiration from cheery Cold War safety films of the 1950s, the artist will use the Performance Bridge to help visitors prepare for "sudden ground loss"—what to do when the ground underneath them gives out.

**Saturday, August 25 (installation; all museum hours)**

**[COLON:Y](#), *The Airborne Leaflet Campaign***

This new media installation involves computer printers choreographed to print leaflet papers with authoritarian texts.

**Saturday, September 1 (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)**

**[Carolina Mavorga](#), *Maid in the USA***

This performance piece uses the Performance Bridge to comment on stereotyped views of roles often attributed to immigrants of Hispanic origin. The artist, dressed in a typical Colombian outfit, will clean the glass box while listening to popular Latin music.

**Thursday-Sunday, September 5-9 (installation; all museum hours)**

**[Annie Albagli](#), *Bridging the Light***

Inspired by the work of Richard Diebenkorn, this site-specific installation involves screen prints of geometric and organic forms stretched from the ceiling to the floor of the Performance Bridge.

**Saturday, September 15 (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)**

**[Maida Withers](#), *This Space Occupied* (by Maida)**

Maida Withers, Washington, D.C., performer, choreographer, and filmmaker, will deliver an interactive performance of structured improvisation and a temporary installation.

### **ABOUT TAKE IT TO THE BRIDGE**

The Performance Bridge was first presented at the Corcoran Gallery of Art as the stage for Holly Bass's performance *Moneymaker*, a seven-hour endurance work that took place on February 11, 2012 on the final weekend of the Corcoran's recent landmark exhibition *30 Americans*. Created by Bass and architectural designer Kashuo Bennett, the Performance Bridge transformed the Corcoran's glass entryway into an exhibition space for the first time. Not only could the public see the performance from across the street near the White House Ellipse, but visitors literally had to walk under the artist to enter the museum. Looking up, viewers saw the performance through the transparent Plexiglas floor. Depending on the lighting at any given time of day and the viewer's vantage point, they may have witnessed a full-color spectacle or a shadowed silhouette in motion.

The Performance Bridge is a site-specific, modular construction of wood and Plexiglas, with no joinery. The minimalist design--three-fourths of one inch resting on 2-inch hollow steel rods--creates a nearly invisible structure. The word "Bridge" in its title references the fact that it bridges interior and exterior space. It bridges intentional museumgoers and casual passersby. The Bridge asks us to look up and out, to see in entirely new ways. As a performance space it embodies explicit conceptual themes such as exposure, transparency, entrapment, anthropological display, and the diorama. It is capable of supporting sculpture or installation, live performers, as well as more ethereal works that use sound and light as material.

### **ABOUT WASHINGTON PROJECT FOR THE ARTS**

Washington Project for the Arts (WPA) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide the essential resources to support the creative spirit and success of regional artists. WPA presents contemporary art through imaginative and provocative programs, and connects artists with the community in both traditional and unexpected ways. Since its founding in 1975 by Alice Denney, WPA has showcased the works of thousands of artists and has reached hundreds of thousands of visitors and viewers with its programs and projects. Today WPA stands as the oldest and largest 501(c)(3) artist membership organization in the region and the premier source for excellence in contemporary art. For more information about WPA and its programming, visit [www.wpadc.org](http://www.wpadc.org).

WPA is supported by its members, Board of Directors, invaluable volunteers, and by generous contributions from numerous individuals and the D.C. Commission on the Arts & Humanities, William C. Paley Foundation, The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, Susan and Dixon Butler, Abramson Family Foundation, Ray Garcia, Carol Brown Goldberg and Henry H. Goldberg, Haleh Design, Hickok Cole Architects, Giselle and Benjamin Huberman, Betsy Karel, Russell and Randy Katz, Yvette Kraft, Marshfield Associates, Richard Seaton and John Berger, MD, TTR Sotheby's International Realty, UBS Financial Services Inc., Sarah Valente, Vivo Design, Alexia and Roderick von Lipsey, and The Washington Post Company.

*Corcoran and WPA Announce Take It to the Bridge/page three*

*Corcoran and WPA Announce Take It to the Bridge/page four*

## **ABOUT THE CORCORAN**

**The Corcoran Gallery of Art**, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869. It was America's first dedicated art museum and today is Washington's largest nonfederal museum of art. It is known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. In addition, a dynamic schedule of special exhibitions is complemented and enhanced by a range of educational programming, which together seek to enrich perspectives, support the local arts community, and encourage interpretation. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded in 1890 and stands as Washington's only four-year college of art and design, offering BFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Fine Art Photography, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Photojournalism; a BA in Art Studies; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); an AFA in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, and Photography; and MA degrees in Art and the Book, Art Education, Exhibition Design, Interior Design, Master of Arts in Teaching, and New Media Photojournalism. The College's Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit [www.corcoran.org](http://www.corcoran.org).



Page one: Photo by Jason Tucker

Page two: Photo by Kate Warren

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