

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

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR *Take It to the Bridge*

Program Dates: July 7–September 1, 2012

Submission Deadline: Monday, May 21, 2012; 5pm

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) to submit proposals for *Take It to the Bridge*, a new series of temporary exhibitions, performances, installations, or interventions in the Performance Bridge inside the Corcoran's glass entryway on 17th Street. The *Take It to the Bridge* series is open to



artists working in all mediums, including performance, video, sound, installation, and 2-D work. The call seeks proposals for new work that explores the concept of space and place and that utilizes the unique properties and location of the Performance Bridge. The work may be in response to the collection, history, or architecture of the Corcoran or the city of Washington, D.C., or it may find resonances with *Richard Diebenkorn: The Ocean Park Series*, the Corcoran's major summer exhibition on view June 30–September 23, 2012.

Performances and presentations will be part of the Corcoran's Free Summer Saturdays (May 26–September 1, 2012), which draw on average 1,700 visitors on each Saturday of free admission. Installation work may be in situ for one full week, though any live presentations will be one-day only. In addition, a schedule of artists talks and community programs will also be designed around the summer series.

Proposals will be 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.

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The Corcoran will provide an artist fee of \$500 to each participating artists. Efforts will also be made to provide additional funds for materials, travel and accommodations. Artists who are interested in submitting can read the full Call for Proposals on the WPA website (www.wpadc.org).

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 landmark fall 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.

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.

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.



Photo by Kate Warren, GoKateShoot.

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