



Washington  
Project for the Arts

**CORCORAN**  
GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 25, 2012**

Contact: Blair Murphy, WPA Program Director

202-234-7103 x 1/ [bmurphy@wpadc.org](mailto:bmurphy@wpadc.org)

Rachel Cothran, Director of PR

202-639-1833/ [rcothran@corcoran.org](mailto:rcothran@corcoran.org)

**Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design and Washington Project for the Arts  
Present *Sleep*, by Chajana denHarder**

Performance part of *Take It to the Bridge*, a series of installations and performances in the Corcoran's Performance Bridge  
from July 18 – September 15

Washington, D.C. (July 25, 2012) –**The Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design** and Washington Project for the Arts and are pleased to present *Sleep*, a performance by artist Chajana denHarder, taking place on Saturday, July 28 from 10 a.m. through 5 p.m. The performance is part of *Take It to the Bridge*, a nine-week series of installations and performances taking place through September 15 in the new Performance Bridge located inside the Corcoran's glass entryway on 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

For *Sleep*, denHarder will spend the museum's Saturday hours, from 10 a.m. through 5 p.m., sleeping or attempting to sleep. As visitors enter the Gallery, they may glance up and see the artist lying on the transparent bridge above them or they may remain entirely unaware of the artist's presence. As the artist states, the performance allows her to "get quiet, to maybe go unnoticed, to try and relax, to sleep, and to not entertain. To just be." At the same time, the simplicity of the work belies the difficulty of its execution. *Sleep* requires the artist to let herself be seen in ways she will not have control over, to make herself vulnerable to the public's gaze, and to perform a typically private ritual in a public space. Lying in the Performance Bridge, the artist will be isolated from - but clearly visible to - museum visitors and passersby on the street, occupying a space between the museum and the outside world.

The Performance Bridge was first constructed at the Corcoran as the stage for local artist Holly Bass's performance *Moneymaker*, a seven-hour endurance work that took place on February 11, 2012, during the final weekend of the Corcoran's landmark fall exhibition *30 Americans*.

For *Take it to the Bridge*, eleven artists living and working in the DC-Baltimore region 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. Installations will open on Wednesday and remain on view through the following Sunday for all museum hours. Performances will take place on Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The first seven weeks of the series coincide with the Corcoran's [Free Summer Saturdays](#) promotion, which runs from May 26 - September 1, 2012.

See the full *Take it to the Bridge* schedule below and more information online at <http://www.corcoran.org/summer/bridge> and [wpadc.org](http://wpadc.org)

July 18 – July 22: *Ubuntu*, Maya Freelon Asante

**Saturday, July 28, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.: *Sleep*, Chajana denHarder**

August 1 – August 5, all museum hours: *Canaries in McMansionland*, Jennifer Coster

Thursday, August 9, 7 p.m.: Public Talk with Esa Nickle, Managing Director/Producer of Performa

Friday, August 10: WPA Member meetings with Esa Nickle@WPA

Saturday, August 11, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.: *Save the Date*, Kathryn Cornelius

Saturday, August 18, 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.: *Procedures for Ground Safety Loss*, Sarah Levitt

August 22 – August 26, all museum hours: *The Airborne Leaflet Campaign*, Chukwuma Agubokwu and Wilmer Wilson IV

Saturday, September 1, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.: *Maid in the USA*, Carolina Mayorga

Saturday, September 5 – September 9, all museum hours: *Bridging the Light*, Annie Albagli

Saturday, September 15, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.: *This Space Occupied (by Maida)*, Maida Withers with composer Steve Hilmy

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

Washington Project for the Arts (WPA) is an independent, nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is to serve as a catalyst for contemporary art. WPA supports artists at all stages of their careers and promotes contemporary art by presenting exhibitions, issues, and ideas that stimulate public dialogue on art and culture. [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.

### **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).



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