



New Orleans Museum of Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jim Mulvihill, Director of Communications and Marketing, (504) 658-4106

NOMA Adds *Rethink, Renew, Revive* to Saturday Exhibition Openings

NEW ORLEANS, La. (Thursday, September 11, 2008)—*Rethink, Renew, Revive* is an exhibition of six large-scale photographs by New Orleans-based artists, originally scheduled to have been on view during the city's Katrina anniversary observance on August 29. Postponed due to Hurricane Gustav, the exhibition now will be on view at the New Orleans Museum of Art from Saturday, Sept. 13 to Sunday, Oct. 26.

Organized by the City of New Orleans, the exhibition includes work by Dennis Couvillion, George Long, Julie Plonk, Samuel Portera, Zack Smith and Eric Waters. Exhibited in pairs, the photographs demonstrate the city's efforts to "Rethink our future," "Renew our faith" and "Revive our culture."

Exhibition Complements *Coping With Katrina*

Rethink, Renew, Revive will be on view in the Museum's first-floor McDermott Lobby, where it will complement the NOMA-organized exhibition, *Coping with Katrina: Artwork from the Hyogo-NOMA Children's Art Therapy Initiative*, also on view in the McDermott Lobby through Oct. 26.

Coping with Katrina showcases artworks by children who lived through the 2005 hurricane and subsequent flooding. All of the pieces were produced by participants in the Hyogo-NOMA Children's Art Therapy Initiative, which has offered art therapy sessions at schools throughout the New Orleans area and at free day camps at the Museum.

"The works express sincere emotions about the children's experiences with Hurricane Katrina," said Holly Wherry, the professional art therapist who has been on staff at NOMA since 2007 and who coordinated the sessions that led to this exhibition. "You see how they are coping three years after the storm, and you see their immense pride in New Orleans."

All of the participating children have given permission for their art to be exhibited publicly in order to communicate their experiences and educate the public about art therapy.

-more-

Rethink, Renew, Revive

2/2/2/2

About the Hyogo-NOMA Art Therapy Initiative

Through a generous gift from the Hyogo Prefecture of Japan, NOMA has been providing art therapy services to the children of New Orleans. Art therapy is a mental health profession that helps people use art to process their emotions when they have difficulty expressing themselves verbally, and over 250 New Orleans public school children have received weekly art therapy services as part of the Hyogo-NOMA Children's Art Therapy Initiative. In total, almost 800 children, educators, mental health professionals, and parents have benefited from the program over the past year by learning to use art to process, share, cope with, and express their Hurricane Katrina experiences. The program provided art therapy groups for children who may not otherwise have had access to mental health services and were often traumatized, uncertain, frightened and living in communities in transition.

Prints and Glass Also Opening Saturday

Also opening Saturday are two previously scheduled exhibitions, *Prints Past & Prints Present: Limited Editions from Louisiana* and *Seeking the Light: Studio Glass by Luke Jacomb*.

Organized by the Historic New Orleans Collection and the New Orleans Museum of Art, *Prints Past & Prints Present: Limited Editions from Louisiana* features prints by over 50 printmakers who visited or resided in Louisiana from the late nineteenth century through the present.

Seeking the Light: Studio Glass by Luke Jacomb showcases the work of Luke Jacomb, a second-generation artist in glass following in the footsteps of his father, John Croucher. Utilizing cutting-edge glass technology, time-proven techniques such as those of the Venetians, and a decorative vocabulary of ancient Maori and Polynesian motifs, Jacomb has brought a distinctive aesthetic to the studio glass movement.

The Darkroom

The photographic prints which comprise *Rethink, Renew, Revive* were processed at The Darkroom, 1927 Sophie Wright Place, providing custom imaging solutions.

About NOMA and the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden

The New Orleans Museum of Art, founded in 1910 by Isaac Delgado, houses more than 30,000 art objects encompassing 4,000 years of world art. Works from the permanent collection, along with continuously changing temporary exhibitions, are on view in the Museum's 46 galleries Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m. and Thursdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the Museum is free to Louisiana residents through the generosity of The Helis Foundation.

Admission to the adjacent Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden, featuring work by 57 artists, including several of the 20th century's master sculptors, is always free during regular Museum hours.

For more information, call (504) 659-4100 or visit www.noma.org.

###