

Foundation for Contemporary Arts

820 Greenwich Street
New York, New York 10014

Telephone 212 807-7077

Facsimile 212 807-7177

info@contemporary-arts.org

CONTACT: Mary Simpson
Program Manager
212.807.7077
ms@contemporary-arts.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS ANNOUNCES
GRANTS TO ARTISTS FOR 2011**

New York, NY, January 2011 – Foundation for Contemporary Arts (FCA) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2011 *Grants to Artists* program. Fourteen unrestricted grants of \$25,000 each, a total of \$350,000, are to be awarded to artists in the United States and abroad.

Selected by the Directors of the Foundation and noted members of the arts community from confidential nominations submitted by prominent artists and arts professionals, the 2011 recipients are:

DANCE

Deborah Hay, Austin, TX
Jodi Melnick, Brooklyn, NY
David Neumann, Brooklyn, NY

MUSIC/SOUND

Kevin Drumm, Chicago, IL
Steve Roden, Pasadena, CA
Marina Rosenfeld, New York, NY
Michael Webster, Los Angeles, CA

POETRY

Katie Peterson, Cambridge, MA

THEATER/PERFORMANCE ART

Ryan McNamara, Brooklyn, NY
Alix Pearlstein, New York, NY

VISUAL ARTS

Jos de Gruyter and Harald Thys, Brussels, Belgium
Curtis Mitchell, New York, NY
Dona Nelson, Lansdale, PA
Raha Raissnia, Brooklyn, NY

Grants to Artists are chosen annually by a confidential nomination and selection process. A pool of distinguished artists and arts professionals are invited to serve as nominators. Nominators may propose one exceptional individual, artists' collective or performing group whom they believe deserve and would benefit from a \$25,000 award. A selection panel chooses grantees on the basis of the merit and imaginativeness of their work and the effect such recognition and support might have at this point in their careers. The large, unrestricted cash awards are intended to provide recipients with the financial means to engage in whatever artistic endeavors they wish to pursue, to research and develop ideas, embark on projects and complete projects already underway.

“Foundation for Contemporary Arts is pleased to be able to award a record number of *Grants to Artists* in 2011,” said Stacy Stark, Executive Director. “In a difficult economic climate, funding for individual artists is typically one of the first things to disappear. The Foundation remains committed to supporting artists.”

FCA will publish a booklet profiling the 2011 grantees in March. Their curriculum vitae and other information will be available on FCA's website, www.foundationforcontemporaryarts.org, at the same time.

Founded and guided by artists, Foundation for Contemporary Arts' mission is to encourage, sponsor and promote innovative work in the arts created and presented by individuals, groups and organizations. Artists working in dance, music/sound, theater/performance art, poetry and the visual arts are awarded nonrestrictive grants to use at their own discretion; arts organizations receive project or general operating support by application; and a fund is maintained to help artists with work-related emergencies. Since FCA's inception in 1963, nearly 900 artists have donated work to raise funds for these grants.

The current Directors of the Foundation are: Brooke Alexander, Agnes Gund, Frances Fergusson, Jasper Johns, Julian Lethbridge, Kara Walker and T.J. Wilcox. Members of the Board were joined in this year's grant selection process by art historian, critic and director of the graduate program at the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College Johanna Burton; writer, critic and philosopher Christoph Cox; artist and White Columns Director/Chief Curator Matthew Higgs; and performer and founding member of The Wooster Group Kate Valk. Advisors to the selection committee for the Poetry category were poets Larry Fagin and Elizabeth Robinson.