

## Five New Large-Scale Works to Be Installed at Denver Art Museum's Hamilton Building

**Denver, September 25, 2006** —The Denver Art Museum (DAM) has announced that five new large-scale works will be installed at the Frederic C. Hamilton Building, which opens on October 7, 2006. *Big Sweep* by Coosje van Bruggen and Claes Oldenburg, and *Denver Monoliths* by Beverly Pepper have been permanently installed on Martin Plaza just outside the Museum; *Scottish Angus Cow and Calf* by Dan Ostermiller will be installed this fall just south of the new building. All three sculptures range in height from 13 to 40 feet. Inside the museum, a large-scale installation entitled *ENGI* by artist Tatsuo Miyajima is located in the El Pomar Grand Atrium of the Hamilton Building. In addition to these permanent works, the Museum has installed a loaned bronze *Spider* by artist Louise Bourgeois just outside the front entrance of the new Hamilton Building.

"I am thrilled about the quality of these additions to the Museum's collection, which also reflect the diversity of the contemporary art we are acquiring," said Denver Art Museum director Lewis Sharp. "From abstract to pop art to contemporary realism, we are adding objects that extend the breadth of the current holdings and significantly enhance our city's public art program."

*Big Sweep*, a 35-foot broom and dustpan made of painted metal, will be located on the south side of 13th Avenue at the base of the "prow" of the new Libeskind-designed Hamilton Building. Completed in 2004, *Big Sweep* was commissioned by the Museum in 1999 with support from multiple donors. The Museum owns three other works by Oldenburg and van Bruggen, including *Clothespin*, which is on view in the modern and contemporary galleries.

"The art community has eagerly awaited the arrival of these new works sited around the campus," said Dianne Vanderlip, Denver Art Museum curator of modern and contemporary art. "They will contribute greatly to the excitement surrounding the Museum's re-opening this fall and to Denver's offerings of important large-scale outdoor art."

Ostermiller's *Scottish Angus Cow and Calf* is a 2006 gift of businessman Leo Hindery, who originally commissioned the Colorado artist to sculpt the bronze pair in 2001 for his ranch near Larkspur. In addition to the sculpture itself, Hindery has pledged \$1 million for its installation and care. *Cow and Calf*, Ostermiller's largest bronze sculpture, will be located in the newly landscaped Hindery Family Park, on the south side of the Hamilton Building along 12th Avenue.

"Ostermiller carries forward into our time the noble tradition of *animalier* art from the 19th century and before, yet does it on a grand scale," said Peter Hassrick, director of the Institute of Western American Art at the DAM. "This monolithic bronze celebrates his talent as a sculptor and the cattle culture of Colorado, on which Denver's economy and society were partly based for many generations."

*Denver Monoliths* by Beverly Pepper was commissioned earlier this year with support from a private donor. This abstract, aggregate sculpture—measuring 40 feet high and 12-1/2 feet in diameter—is one of her most spectacular public sculptures anywhere. The work is located to the east of the Hamilton Building opposite *Big Sweep*, near the northwest entrance of the Cultural Complex parking garage.

In Miyajima's *ENGI*, nearly 80 mirrored discs, flashing the numerals one through nine in ascending order, are displayed throughout the entrance of the Hamilton Building. The artist invited a select number of Denver citizens to collaborate on the project. Their role was to determine the speed at which the single numbers would appear and be replaced by the next.

*Spider*, by Louise Bourgeois, is on loan to the Museum for approximately two years. For Bourgeois, the spider is a feminine hero figure. She has created numerous spider sculptures to honor her mother who was, the artist says, like a spider—"deliberate, soothing and patient." The sculpture is installed outside the Hamilton Building's main entrance on Martin Plaza.

Since its founding in 1893, the Denver Art Museum has amassed over 60,000 works of art, the largest and most comprehensive collection of world art between Chicago and the West Coast. Internationally known for its holdings of American Indian art, the museum has also assembled an extensive group of pre-Columbian and Spanish Colonial art now considered one of the finest anywhere. Other areas of concentration are painting and sculpture, architecture, design and graphics, modern and contemporary, African, Asian, Oceanic, Western American and textile art.

The Denver Art Museum is located in downtown Denver on 13th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m.; closed Mondays and most major holidays. The Museum is open late on Wednesdays. Special pricing may apply to featured exhibitions. General admission is free for Colorado residents every Saturday, thanks to the citizens who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD). The Cultural Complex Garage is open; enter from Broadway between 13th and 12th Avenues or check the DAM website for up to date parking information. For more information, call 720-865-5000 or visit the Museum's website at [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org). For information in Spanish, call 720-913-0169.

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