

Dallas Museum of Art Presents *Big New Field* Showcasing Select Works by Contemporary Artists Whose Large-Scale Installations Are on View at Cowboys Stadium

Opening December 2010, Exhibition Welcomes Super Bowl XLV to North Texas

In anticipation of Dallas' first-ever Super Bowl in February 2011 at the new Cowboys Stadium, the Dallas Museum of Art presents an exhibition of contemporary work by the artists whose large-scale and site-specific commissions are on view at the stadium as part of the Dallas Cowboys Art Program. Drawn from the DMA's collections and from select local private holdings, *Big New Field: Artists in the Cowboys Stadium Art Program* features some twenty works by the artists in this innovative and groundbreaking public art project, including Franz Ackermann, Olafur Eliasson, Daniel Buren, Annette Lawrence, Terry Haggerty, Teresita Fernandez, and Doug Aitken among many other others.

On view from December 5, 2010, through February 20, 2011, *Big New Field* is curated by Charles Wylie, The Lupe Murchison Curator of Contemporary Art. Wylie is a founding member of the Art Council for the Dallas Cowboys Art Program, which was launched in 2009 by Cowboys owners Gene and Jerry Jones and their family. In addition to celebrating the art in Cowboys Stadium, *Big New Field* will highlight the emergence of North Texas as a leading center of contemporary art and architecture.

In conjunction with the exhibition opening, the DMA will host an admission-free "Sneak Peek" Day on December 4, with a preview of *Big New Field* and a full program of activities in the galleries and the Center for Creative Connections tied to the exhibition theme. Highlighted events include a community art project with Texas-based artist Annette Lawrence and the launch of two new bite-sized tours of sports-related works of art in the Museum's encyclopedic collections at the DMA. For a full schedule of programs, please visit DallasMuseumofArt.org.

"The Art Program at Cowboys Stadium has enriched the North Texas art community with a unique commissioning program that brings together sports fans and art aficionados alike," said Bonnie Pitman, the DMA's Eugene McDermott Director. "With this exhibition, we hope to deepen that experience at the Dallas Museum of Art by providing audiences with further understanding of the work and practices of these leading contemporary artists who hail from North Texas, the United States, and beyond."

Visitors to *Big New Field* will have the chance to view and learn more about the acclaimed artists in the Dallas Cowboys Art Program by experiencing different aspects of their work. A vibrantly colored collage painting by Trenton Doyle Hancock, for instance, is another chapter in this Texas-born and -raised artist's fanciful Mounds saga. Lawrence Weiner's text piece offers a less specific experience of words on a wall than his work at Cowboys Stadium, while Dave Muller's multi-part watercolor shows him working on a similar grandly conceived scale but to different ends. Paintings by Matthew Ritchie, Jim Isermann, Jacqueline Humphries, Mel Bochner, Gary Simmons, Wayne Gonzales, Ricci Albenda and Garth Weiser likewise all point to different aspects of these accomplished artists' rich and multi-faceted bodies of work.

"The Cowboys Stadium Art Program is an amazing joining of forces that has allowed literally millions of people the world over to experience contemporary art, something they might not come into contact with in their daily lives," said Charles Wylie. "The opportunity to have so many learn about contemporary art and artists is something we want to reinforce with this exhibition, and of course we also want to celebrate the vision and commitment of the Jones family, who made this extraordinary initiative happen. The response from the contemporary art world to Cowboys Stadium has been one of astonishment and delight, and this is exactly what we wish to extend to all of our visitors to *Big New Field*."

Big New Field: Artists in the Cowboys Stadium Art Program is organized by the Dallas Museum of Art and made possible by TWO X TWO for AIDS and Art, an annual fundraising event that jointly benefits amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research and the Dallas Museum of Art. Additional support is provided by the Contemporary Art Fund through the gifts of an anonymous donor, Arlene and John Dayton, Laura and Walter Elcock, Amy and Vernon Faulconer, Kenny Goss and George Michael, Nancy and Tim Hanley, Marguerite Steed Hoffman, Janelle and Alden Pinnell, Allen and Kelli Questrom, Cindy and Howard Rachofsky, Deedie and Rusty Rose, Gayle and Paul Stoffel, and Sharon and Michael Young. Air transportation provided by American Airlines.

About the Dallas Cowboys Art Program

The Dallas Cowboys Art Program is an ongoing initiative to commission contemporary artists to create monumental, site-specific installations for the recently completed Cowboys Stadium. The program launched in 2010 with 14 commissioned artworks, installed in prominent locations throughout the stadium. The Dallas Cowboys Art Program was conceived, launched, and funded by Cowboys owner and general manager Jerry Jones and his wife, Gene. Their daughter, Charlotte Anderson, and niece, Melissa Meeks, have also played prominent roles in the project. An Art Council of noted curators and collectors is serving as an advisory committee to evaluate and recommend artists and their works. Its members include Michael Auping, Chief Curator, the Museum of Modern Art, Fort Worth; Charles Wylie, Lupe Murchison Curator of Contemporary Art, the Dallas Museum of Art; and Texas-based collectors Howard Rachofsky and Gayle Stoffel. Mary Zlot of the art advisory firm Mary Zlot & Associates is providing counsel on the program.

About the Dallas Museum of Art

Located in the vibrant Arts District of downtown Dallas, Texas, the Dallas Museum of Art (DMA) ranks among the leading art institutions in the country and is distinguished by its innovative exhibitions and groundbreaking educational programs. At the heart of the Museum and its programs are its encyclopedic collections, which encompass more than 24,000 works and span 5,000 years of history, representing a full range of world cultures. Established in 1903, the Museum today welcomes more than 500,000 visitors annually and acts as a catalyst for community creativity, engaging people of all ages and backgrounds with a diverse spectrum of programming, from exhibitions and lectures to concerts, literary readings, and dramatic and dance presentations.

The Dallas Museum of Art is supported in part by the generosity of Museum members and donors and by the citizens of Dallas through the City of Dallas/Office of Cultural Affairs and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

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