

Press Contact: Shea Communications
Alexis Schneider, George Shea 212-627-5766

For Immediate Release:

MAS ANNOUNCES APRIL PUBLIC PROGRAMS

*Cervin Robinson Exhibit, Panel Discussion on Obama-Era Urban Policies
Among Highlights*

New York, March 12, 2009--The Municipal Art Society of New York, a private, non-profit membership organization that fights for intelligent urban planning, design, and preservation, has announced its public program schedule for the month of April.

The line-up includes a Cervin Robinson photography exhibit highlighting diverse architecture of Broadway from Lower Manhattan to Harlem; a centennial celebration of the Queensboro and Manhattan bridges; a conversation on the impact of public and accessible art and a related tour of public art in Lower Manhattan and Staten Island; a panel discussion of urban policies under President Obama; and a panel discussion on the opportunities and challenges ahead for New York's small scale manufacturing businesses during today's fiscal crisis.

All programs will be held at The Municipal Art Society of New York at 457 Madison Avenue, unless otherwise noted. Due to limited seating, reservations are strongly recommended. More information and a complete list of upcoming events in April are below.

On view at MAS from Wednesday, March 25 through Wednesday, May 6

By Way of Broadway: New York Photographs by Cervin Robinson

Exhibition curated by Gary Van Zante and organized by the Wolk Gallery, MIT School of Architecture and Planning, Cambridge, MA.

"It's a brilliant show... It's the brassy, ever-changing world of Broadway, where new pushes against old and things crash into one another in unexpected ways." Robert Campbell, *Boston Globe*. FREE.

Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The 100th Birthday of Two Great Bridges: The Queensboro & The Manhattan

A lecture by architectural historian, **John Kriskiewicz**. The consolidation of the Five Boroughs in 1898 was the catalyst for the building of monumental infrastructure that would bind the crowded center with outlying neighborhoods while transforming both in the process. The scale and scope of these projects were illustrative of the national Progressive Era "City Beautiful Movement" as well as new technology and aesthetic ideas. Reception to follow. \$15, \$10 MAS members. RSVP. Pay online at MAS.org or call 212 935 2075.

****Related tour*** Saturday, April 18, 11:00 a.m.*

The Queensboro & Manhattan Bridges Walking Tour

Celebrate the centennial of two of the era's great bridges with walks across the bridges and an exploration of the neighborhoods they transformed with architectural historian, **John Kriskiewicz**. Meet at the Roosevelt Island Tram Station, Second Ave. and E. 59th St. \$15, \$10 MAS members. No reservations. Pay on tour.

-more-

Thursday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

City of Art: New York's Hidden Treasures Revealed

In an era of high museum admission prices, it is noteworthy that great public art remains accessible to all. A panel of artists, designers, and scholars will discuss the criteria for successful public art, the role of public art in revitalizing civic spaces, interpreting shared histories, and engaging residents in the life of their communities. Urban Center Books: The MAS Bookstore will have autographed copies of *Public Art New York* by Jean Phifer available for purchase.

Moderator: **Sara Reisman**, director, Per Cent for ART, DCA; Panelists: **Jean Phifer**, architect, former president, Art Commission of New York City; **Brian Tolle**, artist; **George Trakas**, artist; and **Mary Miss**, artist. \$15, \$10 MAS members. Pay online MAS.org or call 212 935 2075

****Related tour*** Sunday, May 3, 1:00-4:00 p.m.*

City of Art: Lower Manhattan & St. George

Included on the tour will be the remarkable *Irish Hunger Memorial* and works by such varied artists as Noguchi, Lee Krasner, Jeff Koons, Marisol, Martin Puryear, and Daniel Chester French. Take the ferry to Staten Island to visit Masayuki Sono's elegant September 11 Memorial, Michael Falco's cinematic photo-mural, and more. Leader: **Justin Ferate**, architectural historian. Meet on the interior steps of the Winter Garden in the World Financial Center. Entrance on Vesey St., near West St. \$15, \$10 MAS members. Unreserved. Pay on tour.

The City in the Age of Obama

Tuesday, April 21, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Transforming America's Cities: Creating a National Urban Policy

After years of neglect and insufficient funding of urban areas, President Obama has created an Office of National Policy to oversee all federal urban programs and integrate policies that link transportation, housing, economic development, energy, and environmental issues. A panel of policymakers, academics, and practitioners will discuss what this means for our city and explore innovative solutions to create a more sustainable future in the metropolitan region.

Moderator: **Vicki Been**, director, Furman Center, NYU; Panelists: **Eugenie Birch**, chair, Department of City & Regional Planning, University of Pennsylvania; **Chris Jones**, vice president for research, RPA; **Toni Griffin**, director of community development, City of Newark; **Anthony Shorris**, director, Rudin Center for Transportation Policy and Management, NYU. \$15, \$10 MAS members. RSVP. Pay online at MAS.org or call 212 935 2075

Tuesday, April 28, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Manufacturing a Greener New York: More Industries, More Jobs

Given today's fiscal crisis, the diversification of our local economy is critical to sustainable job growth. The new administration has hailed green industries and niche manufacturers as strategic economic engines that can jumpstart urban and regional economies. This panel will bring together manufacturers and policy activists to discuss the opportunities and challenges ahead for New York's small scale manufacturers.

Moderator: **Adam Friedman**, executive director, New York Industrial Retention Network.

Panelists: **Andrew Kimball**, president and chief executive officer, Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corp.; **Omar Freilla**, founder and director, Green Worker Cooperatives; **Rebecca Lurie**, director of development, Consortium for Worker Education; **Dawn Ladd**, founder and president, Aurora Lampworks. \$15, \$10 MAS members. RSVP. Pay online at MAS.org or call 212 935 2075

The Municipal Art Society of New York is a private, non-profit membership organization that fights for intelligent urban planning, design and preservation through education, dialogue and advocacy. The organization was founded in 1893. For more information, please visit www.mas.org

###