

PlatteForum

Contact: Judy Anderson, Artistic Director/Founder

303-893-0791

judy@platteforum.org

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**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS ANNOUNCES GRANT TO
PLATTEFORUM**

\$15,000 grant will support The Confluence Project: A collaborative artist residency program between PlatteForum and the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver

November 23, 2010—Denver-Rocco Landesman, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, today announced that PlatteForum has been approved for a grant of \$15,000 to support *The Confluence Project*, a shared Artist-in-Residence program between **PlatteForum** and the **Museum of Contemporary Art Denver**. This funding will support the residency of Daniele Pario Perra (Italy) who is a relational artist, researcher and designer engaged in exhibitions, research projects and teaching. PlatteForum one of 1,057 not-for-profit organizations recommended for a grant as part of the federal agency's first round of fiscal year 2011 grants. In total, the Arts Endowment will distribute \$26.68 million to support projects nationwide.

An independent agency of the federal government, the National Endowment for the Arts advances artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman said, "I continue to be impressed with the creative, innovative, and excellent projects brought forward by arts organizations across the country. Our grantees are not only furthering their art forms but also enhancing their neighborhoods by making them more vibrant, livable, and fun."

"We are excited to collaborate on this project which uses art and anthropology to look at how people claim urban spaces with 'spontaneous communication' to respond and comment on their environment." Judy Anderson, *PlatteForum* and Sarah Kate Baie, *Museum of Contemporary Art Denver*.

About the Artist

Daniele Perra is a relational artist, researcher and designer engaged in exhibitions, research projects and teaching. His work ranges across different disciplines: art, design, sociology, anthropology, architecture and geopolitics. For some years now he has been exploring spontaneous creativity, cultural trends and patterns of urban development in a constant relationship between material culture and symbolic heritage. In 2001, he started the Low-Cost Design database, which contains more than 7000 photographs of the transformations of objects and public spaces in Europe and around the Mediterranean, which was published in 2010. He investigated spontaneous communication in various European cities with the "Fresco Removals" format, teaching people, in real urban actions, how to store notable examples of wall writing and graffiti before their removal. *Low Cost Design*, published this year, contains thousands of examples of spontaneous creativity in a visual dictionary between "poetic skill" and "technological skill." Daniele's residency is the second Confluence Project: a shared Artist-in-Residence program between PlatteForum and MCA Denver, and supported by the Anthropology Department at the University of Denver.

About PlatteForum

Every good life is built on a handful of epiphanies—moments of deep insight when the light comes on and you see what is possible for you. PlatteForum teams contemporary artists with small groups of young people from underserved urban neighborhoods to plan, produce and exhibit a collaborative body of work. PlatteForum was created to answer the critical need for learning through the arts for Denver's underserved and at-risk youth. In doing so, PlatteForum gives kids a chance to work side by side with master artists who model the outlook and skills required to build a productive and satisfying life. These creative residencies offer exciting opportunities for working artists to create new work and provide a learning-by-doing experience for young people that can open up a new sense of what is possible.

About MCA Denver

MCA Denver is a non-collecting institution acting as an incubator for art and ideas, artistic exchange, and dialog. As Denver's first institution devoted entirely to contemporary art, MCA Denver inaugurated its new environmentally sustainable facility, designed by David Adjaye, on October 28, 2007. The 27,000 square foot space, located in the Lower Downtown area, received the distinction of Gold level Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The design of the building supports rather than defines the museum's mission and demonstrates the museum's commitment to sustainability. MCA Denver marks David Adjaye's first public building in the U.S. as well as his first contemporary art museum worldwide.

Continuing investment in exhibitions of artworks by local, national and international artists, MCA Denver has five distinct galleries, three spaces for education, multiple sites for special projects/commissioned works and one live art and lecture hall as potential sites for work in all media. These galleries and spaces have been envisioned as platforms for multi-level curatorial possibilities. The exhibition areas are thus seen as a curatorial rubric for interaction between artists, works of art, curatorial practice and interpretive dialog.

*The **National Endowment for the Arts** was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government that has awarded more than \$4 billion on projects of artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector. To join the discussion on how art works, visit the National Endowment for the Arts at arts.gov.*

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PlatteForum

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Transform lives through art.