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Press Release

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WHITNEY MUSEUM ANNOUNCES ITS FALL 2007 PERFORMANCE SERIES, SELECT FRIDAYS AT 7PM

**Whitney Museum's legendary Composers' Showcase series returns
with John Hollenbeck, JG Thirlwell, and Andy Biskin**

**Other performances by SITI Company, Marissa Nadler, and Moving
Theater with International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE)**

My Barbarian performance in collaboration with PERFORMA 07

NEW YORK, August 3, 2007 -- This fall, Whitney Live, the Whitney Museum's performance series features a varied set of performances as well as the continuation of the Whitney's legendary Composers' Showcase series. Whitney Live is free with Museum admission, which is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6–9 pm. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

The complete fall schedule follows below; for press reservations, contact the press office at 212-570-3633 or pressoffice@whitney.org. All programs are at the Whitney Museum of American Art, 945 Madison Avenue at 75th Street, in the Robert J. Hurst Family Gallery on the Lower Level.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 at 7:00 pm

Hotel Cassiopeia: The Backstory

Famed contemporary theater group SITI Company shares scenes, songs, and thoughts about their upcoming BAM Next Wave Festival production of *Hotel Cassiopeia*, a play by Charles L. Mee. The work, inspired by the imaginative assemblagist, collagist, and filmmaker Joseph Cornell (1903–1972), follows *bobrauschenbergamerica* (2003) in Mee's quartet of plays examining artists. The evening will be hosted by Mee along with the play's director, Anne Bogart.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 at 7:00 pm

Composers' Showcase: John Hollenbeck

Based on the legendary series that took place in the Whitney's galleries from the late-1960s through the 1980s, the Composers' Showcase series presents evenings dedicated to composers of extraordinary vision and individuality. This evening, John Hollenbeck, a composer and percussionist who defies easy categorization, will lead several ensembles in a varied portrait of his work.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2 at 7:00 pm

Composers' Showcase: J. G. Thirlwell

A Brooklyn-based Australian, Thirlwell has used many names for his many visions: Foetus (and its myriad variations), Steroid Maximus, Clint Ruin, and Baby Zizanie, among others. His more than a dozen albums demonstrate an amazing breadth of auditory/sonic interests and experiences. At Whitney Live, J. G. Thirlwell will present a portrait of his current projects, including chamber works with electronic and sample-generated music.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 at 7:00 pm

My Barbarian

Co-presented by PERFORMA 07

My Barbarian's *Voyage of the White Widow* is a nautical musical spectacle set in a European Golden Age confounded by globalism and environmental disaster. Malik Gaines, Jade Gordon, and Alex Segade play with the audience in a comical critique of colonial history.

PERFORMA 07 is the second biennial of new visual art performance presented by PERFORMA. It will take place across New York City from November 1-20, 2007. www.performa-arts.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16 at 7:00 pm

Marissa Nadler

Goth-folk songstress Marissa Nadler performs melodies from her latest effort *Songs III: Bird on the Water* (Kemado). Nadler grew up in a town on the outskirts of Boston, where the brutal winters might have inspired in her an early propensity for the darker side of things. Her music is ethereal and spectral: an amalgam of traditional folk, paisley underground, shoe-gaze, and dream pop.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30 at 7:00 pm

Composers' Showcase: Andy Biskin

Andy Biskin has emerged out of the jazz and new music scene as a composer with a distinctly original voice and an extremely broad range of interests. With the Andy Biskin Quartet and special guest Theo Bleckmann, Biskin presents *Early American: The Melodies of Stephen Foster*, as well as new works for various ensembles, commissioned specifically for this performance.

FRIDAYS, DECEMBER 7 & 14 at 7:00 pm

Moving Theater in Residence

Fun, irreverent, and deeply poetic, Moving Theater is a company of dancers, actors, musicians, and designers who create original work that breaks expectations and cuts edges. Teaming up with ICE (International Contemporary Ensemble) – a music collective based in New York and Chicago – they create a pair of evenings featuring new dance and music, staged specifically for the Whitney's Lower Gallery.

About Whitney Live

Whitney Live, the Whitney Museum's performance series, features a range of sensibilities and reflects the Whitney's commitment to American art past and present. Performers represent new trends, reinterpret American traditions, and resonate with the Whitney's exhibitions and permanent collection.

Funding for Whitney Live is provided by Rockefeller Brothers Fund, The New York State Music Fund, established by the New York State Attorney General at Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, and by the Whitney Live Producers.

About The Whitney Museum

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the leading advocate of 20th- and 21st-century American art. Founded in 1930, the Museum is regarded as the preeminent collection of American art and includes major works and materials from the estate of Edward Hopper, the largest public collection of works by Alexander Calder, Louise Nevelson, and Lucas Samaras, as well as significant works by Jasper Johns, Donald Judd, Agnes Martin, Bruce Nauman, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claes Oldenburg, Kiki Smith, and Andy Warhol, among other artists. With its history of exhibiting the most promising and influential American artists and provoking intense debate, the Whitney's signature show, the Biennial, has become the most important survey of the state of contemporary art in America today.

