

THE BMA PRESENTS ANN VERONICA JANSSENS: FOG STAR IN THE SPRING HOUSE BEGINNING MAY 30

Artist also celebrates Baltimore's cinema and silver industries with city-wide Silver Screens project

BALTIMORE, MD (May 17, 2018)—The interior of The Baltimore Museum of Art's (BMA) neoclassical Spring House will be transformed with light, haze, and color as part of a special installation by Brussels-based artist Ann Veronica Janssens. On view from May 30 through October 31, 2018, *Ann Veronica Janssens: Fog Star* is the newest work in the artist's series of *Fog Star* installations that explore the shifting nature of perception.

"We are delighted to reopen the BMA's Spring House with this vibrant and captivating installation by Ann Veronica Janssens," said BMA Dorothy Wagner Wallis Director Christopher Bedford. "Her atmospheric work will provide visitors a completely new experience of this historic building."

Designed around 1812 by U.S. Capitol architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe, the Spring House moved from the Oakland estate in Roland Park to the BMA in 1932. During museum hours, visitors will encounter a glow of brilliantly hued light emanating from the Spring House. Inside, beams of light form a seven-pointed star. Artificial haze passes through the light, creating an illusion of sculptural solidity. Focused on fleeting and intimate experiences of the world, Janssens draws viewers' attention to our own processes of perception within a surrounding environment.

Ann Veronica Janssens: Fog Star is curated by Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art Cecilia Wichmann.

SILVER SCREENS

Coinciding with the exhibition, Janssens is producing *Silver Screens* as part of Bortolami Gallery's Artist/City program, an ongoing series of long-term projects and exhibitions in cities across the country. Janssens is gilding areas on the facade of theaters and cinemas throughout Baltimore with silver rectangles the same proportions as a classic widescreen film—referring to the impressive history of theaters and cinemas in Baltimore. Between 1900 and 1970, a total of 235 theaters were constructed in the city, far more than in most American cities. Some of these theaters are still open, others closed, and still others repurposed. Janssens was drawn to this unique aspect of Baltimore because her work is focused on transforming light into content, just as theaters and specifically cinemas do. These silver screens also refer to Baltimore's history in the silver industry.

Silver screens can be found at the following theatres: Mayfair Theater (508 North Howard Street), Patterson Theater (3134 Eastern Avenue), and Edgewood Theater at Olivet Baptist Church (3500 Edmondson Avenue). Additional silver screens will be added throughout the city this summer. For more information, visit <http://bortolamigallery.com/artistcity/>.

ANN VERONICA JANSSENS

Ann Veronica Janssens (b. 1956, Folkstone, UK) lives and works in Brussels. Her work has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions including WIELS - Contemporary Art Centre in Brussels (Belgium), the Espai d'art contemporani in Castelló (Spain), the Museum Morsbroich in Leverkusen (Germany), the Neue Nationalgalerie in Berlin (Germany), the Kunstverein München (Germany), the Musée d'Orsay in Paris (France), the CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts in San Francisco, the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham (UK), the Kunsthalle Bern (Switzerland) the Beppu project (Japan), Museo Cappella Sansevero, with Nord Project, in Naples (Italy) and Unlimited at Art Basel (Switzerland). In 1999, she co-represented Belgium at the Venice Biennale with fellow artist Michel François. Her work was also presented at the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas in 2016.

THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

Founded in 1914, The Baltimore Museum of Art is a major cultural destination recognized for engaging diverse audiences through dynamic exhibitions and innovative educational and community outreach programs. The BMA's internationally renowned collection of 95,000 objects encompasses more than 1,000 works by Henri Matisse anchored by the famed Cone Collection of modern art, as well as one of the nation's finest holdings of prints, drawings, and photographs. The galleries showcase an exceptional collection of art from Africa; important works by established and emerging contemporary artists; outstanding European and American paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts; significant artworks from China; ancient Antioch mosaics; and exquisite textiles from around the world. The 210,000- square-foot museum is also distinguished by a grand historic building designed in the 1920s by renowned American architect John Russell Pope and two beautifully landscaped gardens featuring an array of 20th-century sculpture. The BMA is located in Charles Village, three miles north of the Inner Harbor, and is adjacent to the main campus of Johns Hopkins University. General admission to the BMA is free so that everyone can enjoy the power of art.

VISITOR INFORMATION

General admission to the BMA is free. Special exhibitions may be ticketed. The BMA is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The museum is closed Monday, Tuesday, New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The BMA is located at 10 Art Museum Drive, three miles north of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For general museum information, call 443-573-1700 or visit artbma.org.

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