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BMA PRESENTS U.S. DEBUT OF CAMILLE HENROT'S AWARD-WINNING VIDEO GROSSE FATIGUE

Artist will present live music performance of film Psychopompe at MICA on March 7

BALTIMORE, MD (February 20, 2014)—The Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) is the first museum in the U.S. to present French artist Camille Henrot's *Grosse Fatigue*, an exuberant, award-winning 13-minute video on the creation of the world. The video, which won the Silver Lion Award for most promising newcomer at the 2013 Venice Biennale, engages viewers with an energetic array of documentary, exotic, and familiar images accompanied by a bold spoken-word soundtrack. **Black Box: Camille Henrot** is on view in the BMA's Contemporary Wing **March 5 – June 15, 2014.**

Grosse Fatigue was co-written by Henrot with the Paris-based American poet Jacob Bromberg and set to a driving hip-hop beat scored by French DJ and composer Joakim Bouaziz. Many of the images are from the storage vaults of the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History, where Henrot completed a residency researching artifacts, documents, rituals, and narratives in an attempt to synthesize the massive amount of human knowledge represented. Images of these anthropological objects, often manipulated by colorfully manicured hands, are presented in a rapid succession of desktop computer frames. Surprising juxtapositions occur through layers of images that include the Milky Way, African objects, oranges, marbles, and Energizer batteries. "Grosse Fatigue reaches back to ancient stories while showing how we experience the world in the digital age," said Curator of Contemporary Art Kristen Hileman. "Henrot captures the frenetic pace at which we seek information today."

Curated by Hileman, the exhibition is presented in collaboration with The Johns Hopkins University Center for Advanced Media Studies and Maryland Institute College of Art. Henrot will be in residence this spring at the JHU Center for Advanced Media Studies and will present a free screening of her film *Psychopompe* at the Maryland Institute College of Art on Friday, March 7 at 8 p.m. Combining video projections and a live music performance, *Psychopompe* creates a stirring interpretation of Mary Shelly's novel *Frankenstein*. Henrot's unique project mixes influences from avant-garde cinema and mythology with fragmented images of contemporary life. Space is limited. For more information, visit www.mica.edu.

Henrot (French, born 1978) has had work exhibited at SculptureCenter in New York, the Institute of Contemporary Art in London, the Centre Pompidou in Paris, and The Museum of Modern Art and Palais de Tokyo in Paris. She was nominated for the prestigious Marcel Duchamp Award in 2010.

The exhibition is organized by Curator of Contemporary Art Kristen Hileman and presented in collaboration with The Johns Hopkins University Center for Advanced Media Studies.

ABOUT THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

The Baltimore Museum of Art is home to an internationally renowned collection of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art. Founded in 1914 with a single painting, the BMA today has 90,000 works of art—including the largest holding of works by Henri Matisse in the world. The BMA has a long tradition of collecting the art of the day, beginning with the Cone sisters, whose avid acquisitions from living artists signaled the Museum's commitment to collecting contemporary art. Other outstanding collections include European and American fine and decorative arts, 15th- through 19th-century prints and drawings, works by established and emerging contemporary artists, and objects from Africa, Asia, the Ancient Americas, and Pacific Islands. Two beautifully landscaped gardens display an array of 20th-century sculpture that is an oasis in the city. The Museum is located in the heart of Charles Village and adjacent to the main campus of The Johns Hopkins University. The BMA's building encompasses 210,000 square feet and is distinguished by a grand historic building designed in the 1920s by renowned American architect John Russell Pope. Since 2006, the BMA has eliminated general admission fees so that everyone can enjoy the power of art.

RENOVATION

The BMA's exciting multi-year <u>renovation</u> is underway. If you are visiting the BMA to see a specific work of art or collection, please call ahead to make sure it will be on view. In addition to renovating galleries, we continue to loan works and send traveling exhibitions from our outstanding collection to museums in the U.S. and abroad. Contact Visitor Services at 443-573-1701 during Museum hours for more information.

VISITOR INFORMATION

General admission to the BMA is free. The BMA is open Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11a.m.-6p.m. (except major holidays). The Museum is closed Monday, Tuesday, New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The BMA is located on Art Museum Drive at North Charles and 31st Streets, three miles north of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For general Museum information, call 443-573-1700 or visit arthma.org.