

## FRANZ WEST-INSPIRED PROGRAMS AT THE BMA

*Artist Panel Discussion, ArtBlast!, and Sound Off events celebrate landmark exhibition*

BALTIMORE, MD (September 5, 2008)—Explore Franz West’s wildly innovative, supersize, and provocative art through a variety of programs offered for adults and families at the BMA this fall. Guided tours and an artist panel discussion provide opportunities for visitors to expand their understanding and appreciation for West’s art, while special events and workshops invite participants to embrace their own creativity in response to the exhibition. For more information, visit [artbma.org](http://artbma.org) or call 443-573-1832.

The BMA-organized exhibition, *Franz West, To Build a House You Start with the Roof*, is on view October 12, 2008 – January 4, 2009. This comprehensive survey includes 117 objects that reflect West’s extraordinary innovations in sculpture, design, and on paper—ranging from early interactive works from the 1970s to two enormous brightly colored objects created for this exhibition.

### **SOUND OFF! CALL FOR ENTRIES**

*Sunday, October 12—Sunday, November 30*

*Free*

Calling all beatboxers, DJs, experimental musicians, poets, and spoken-word artists. Visit *Franz West*, and let the exhibition serve as your muse for this online competition. Record your creative response to the exhibition and post it on [artbma.org](http://artbma.org). Winners, determined by popular vote, will perform at a special evening event held at the BMA on Friday, December 5. Deadline for submissions is November 30; winners will be notified on December 1. To vote, visit [artbma.org](http://artbma.org). For more information, call 443-573-1832 or visit [artbma.org](http://artbma.org).

### **THIRD THURSDAYS CURATORIAL TOUR**

*Thursday, October 16, 1 p.m.*

*Free*

Visit the *Franz West* exhibition with Senior Curator of Contemporary Art Darsie Alexander. Space is limited. For reservations, call 443-573-1832 or e-mail [programs@artbma.org](mailto:programs@artbma.org).

### **ARTBLAST!: BIG AND SMALL**

*Sunday, October 26, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.*

*Free*

Explore art big and small during this fun-filled day of performances, art-making, and gallery activities for all ages. Investigate the strange, playful, and simply gigantic works in this fall’s special exhibition on *Franz West*, then make your own supersize sculpture and drawings. Take a bite-sized tour for wee ones, enjoy mini food tastings, and dance to big sounds performed by the Milkshake Trio and Swingin’ Swamis. *Held rain or shine*. For a complete list of activities, visit [artbma.org](http://artbma.org).

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### “BIG ART’S NAUGHTY LITTLE ISSUES: SEX, LOVE, POWER” PANEL DISCUSSION

Saturday, November 8, 3:30 p.m. (doors open at 3 p.m.)

Free

This candid panel discussion examines sex, love, and power in contemporary art and pop culture. The BMA has invited three artists—Hilary Harkness, Nicole Eisenman, and Tom Otterness—to confront these issues and speak about their own work. After listening to these uninhibited speakers, the audience is invited to add their own questions, moderated by Senior Curator of Contemporary Art Darsie Alexander. Co-sponsored by the Austrian Cultural Forum, New York, and the BMA Friends of Modern and Contemporary Art. *Arrive early—seating is limited.*

**Hilary Harkness** (American, b. 1971) is a painter whose visually dense compositions examine hierarchical societies largely populated by industrious, cultured, and carnal women.

**Nicole Eisenman** (French, b.1965) creates paintings, drawings, and assemblages filled with raw emotion and a sense of humor that sets her work apart from other overtly political, feminist art.

**Tom Otterness** (American, b. 1952) is widely known for creating cartoon-like bronze characters that adorn public areas. Money, power, and occasionally sex underlie their transactions.

### DOCENT-LED TOURS

October 29, November 5 & 12, 2 p.m.

Free

Tour the *Franz West* exhibition with friendly volunteer guides who are trained by BMA curators and educators to enhance the visitor’s experience at the Museum.

### FREE FAMILY SUNDAYS

Sundays in November, 2 p.m.

Free

Bring your family to the BMA on Sunday afternoons to participate in special workshops and tours designed to engage both the young and young-at-heart. Every Sunday in November embraces a theme from the *Franz West* exhibition.

**November 2:** Family Workshop: Really Big Drawings

**November 9:** Family Workshop: Big Ideas, Small Sculptures

**November 16:** Family Workshop: Sit Yourself Down

**November 23:** Family Workshop: Supersized Sculpture

**November 30:** Family Tour: Art Big and Small

### SOUND-OFF! PARTY

Friday, December 5, 8–11 p.m.

Admission TBD

The votes have been counted, so now it’s time to check out which beatboxers, DJs, experimental musicians, poets, and spoken-word artists who won the BMA’s Sound Off! competition. This lively event will include DJ sets, cash bar, and performances by the winners and invited special guests.

Media sponsors are b free daily, City Paper, and WTMD 89.7 FM.

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