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LUISA LAMBRI EXHIBITION FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHS OF BALTIMORE DESIGN LANDMARK

BALTIMORE, MD (January 15, 2007) — Italian photographer Luisa Lambri, best known for her subtle images of architectural landmarks, trains her camera on a local home designed by influential modernist Marcel Breuer. The latest in a series of installations in The Baltimore Museum of Art's new experimental project space, **Front Room: Luisa Lambri**, on view **March 7–May 20, 2007**, features approximately 15 laserchrome color prints that reveal subtle changes in environment over the course of a day in Hooper House II, a Bauhaus-style home built in a wooded sanctuary on the edge of Baltimore City in the 1950s.

Lambri uses sequential photographs to investigate the relationship between subjective experience and architectural space, noting the gradual shifts in light and atmosphere that change the mood of a place. Windows and doors become symbolic avenues of visual escape, where the uninhabited interior space gives way to the surrounding vista of trees and meadows. Each work builds upon the last, allowing for a calm and extended gaze that is both visually captivating and quietly mysterious.

Born in Como, Italy, in 1969, Lambri studied languages and literature at universities in Milan and Bologna. She began to take pictures while traveling and soon discovered an affinity for the geometrically simple voids of modernist architecture. In her work with these spare interiors, she developed an interest in architecture, memory, and perception, exploring through photographs how celebrated spaces provoke a range of emotional, visceral, and intellectual responses often separate from the buildings' historical reputations. Her projects include sites such as Le Corbusier's apartment blocks in Chandigarh, India (1997) and Mies van der Rohe's Barcelona Pavilion (2001). She lives and works in Milan.

Marcel Breuer (1902-1981) is best known as one of the early 20th century's most influential furniture designers. Equally influential were the post-war houses he designed on the East Coast and the UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Hooper House II, a long, low house made of Maryland fieldstone, was built in Baltimore in 1956-1959 for Arthur Hooper, a lawyer, and his wife Edith, a patron of the arts. Breuer worked again in Baltimore in the 1970s, designing the lower school building of Bryn Mawr School.

This exhibition is curated by BMA Senior Curator of Contemporary Art Darsie Alexander.

The *Front Room* series is generously sponsored by Stiles Tuttle Colwill, Nancy Dorman, Katherine M. Hardiman, and Elaine and Solomon Snyder.

Conversations with Contemporary Photographers
March – April 2007

Internationally renowned artists are paired for public discussions about photography's changing role in contemporary art, including its relationship to painting, media, and new technology. Conversations will be moderated by Michael Fried, J. R. Herbert Boone Professor of Humanities and Director of the Humanities Center at The Johns Hopkins University and Darsie Alexander, Senior Curator of Contemporary Art at the BMA.

Thursday, March 1, 7 p.m.

Jeff Wall: Through meticulously composed photographic light boxes, Wall creates a complex reality that taps into a range of ideas, emotions, and histories.

Stephen Shore: A leader in the advancement of color photography in the 1970s, Shore's images explore aspects of American popular culture from a distinctly roadside perspective.

Wednesday, March 21, 7 p.m.

Thomas Demand: Constructed scenes built in the studio possess a strange familiarity that informs the work of this acclaimed German photographer.

James Welling: Treating each new exposure as a perceptual experiment, Welling's work challenges both the look and conceptual possibilities of photography.

Thursday, April 12, 7 p.m.

Thomas Struth: Known for images of crowded museums and deserted streets, Struth creates real and orchestrated scenarios filled with alluring detail.

Mitch Epstein: Working in the tradition of great street photography, Epstein searches for sites charged with visual intrigue and psychological power.

Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m.

Anthony McCall: As an experimental filmmaker, McCall's dramatic 'solid light' projections transformed the possibilities of cinema in the 1970s.

Tacita Dean: The residue of history found in old images informs Dean's exploration of the relationship between photography's past and present.

Funding for the photography series has been generously provided by the Mellon Foundation and the BMA Friends of Modern and Contemporary Art. Additional support is provided by Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff and Alan and Carol Edelman.

Front Room: Recent Acquisitions

May 30 – September 2, 2007

Major new acquisitions are the focus of the next Front Room installation with approximately 40 contemporary works of art brought together by theme and association. One object leads provocatively to another in a dense display that winds through images and eras. Designed to illuminate unexpected relationships—between the past and the present, the visual and the psychological—this Front Room exhibition highlights the BMA's extraordinary collection and the way it is altered by each new addition.

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THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION

The BMA's photography collection has grown to more than 3,000 works of astonishing quality. The core of the collection is 20th-century American street photography, and an exceptional group of experimental European photographs made between the wars. Photographers represented in depth include William Eggleston, Robert Frank, Man Ray, Alfred Stieglitz, Paul Strand, and Edward Weston. The Museum has continued to expand the photography collection with acquisitions of works by Brassai, Imogen Cunningham, Gordon Parks, James Van der Zee, and James Welling.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Beginning October 1, general admission to the BMA will be free. Special exhibitions may be ticketed. The BMA is open Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m.- 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; and during the first Thursday of every month (except major holidays), 11 a.m.-9 p.m. 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 www.artbma.org.

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