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BMA EXPANDS SUMMER PROGRAMS IN THE SCULPTURE GARDEN

BALTIMORE, MD (May 25, 2007) — The Baltimore Museum of Art, which boasts one of the most picturesque outdoor garden settings in Baltimore, celebrates summer with a new slate of programs to take place in the Museum's beautiful sculpture gardens. In addition to the popular **Jazz in the Sculpture Garden** concerts, featuring critically acclaimed jazz musicians performing in the sculpture garden on select Saturdays in July and August, the BMA introduces a new **Sculpture Garden cell phone tour**, and the launch of **Yoga in the Sculpture Garden**.

JAZZ IN THE SCULPTURE GARDEN

Jazz in the Sculpture Garden, the BMA's popular annual summer concert series features five critically acclaimed national and regional jazz talents performing outdoors in the scenic Sculpture Gardens. These casual Saturday concerts take place on **July 7, July 21, July 28, August 11, and August 18 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 (\$18 for BMA Members) and can be purchased online at artbma.org, in person at the BMA Box Office, or by calling 443-573-1701.**

SCULPTURE GARDEN CELL PHONE TOUR

The BMA's new cell phone tour encourages visitors to explore the lush Sculpture Gardens while listening to commentary about the works of art on their personal cell phones. Beginning **Wednesday, June 20**, visitors can **call 443-573-1822** to hear commentary by BMA Director Doreen Bolger, BMA Objects Conservator Ann Boulton, sculptor Mark di Suvero, and special reminiscences from BMA Trustee Peggy Heller—who grew up with the Wurtzburger sculpture collection prior to its donation to the Museum. The sculptures featured on the tour display distinctive yellow markers adjacent to their labels. The cell phone tour is free although visitors may incur charges from their cell phone service providers.

YOGA IN THE SCULPTURE GARDEN

The eight-week **Yoga in the Sculpture Garden** class begins **Tuesday, July 10, at 6:00 p.m.** This new program invites participants to explore the world of yoga amidst masterworks of modern and contemporary sculpture in BMA Sculpture Gardens. **The cost to participate in the eight-week class is \$100 (\$85 for BMA Members).** Registration is limited, and preregistration is required. **Call 443-573-1832 for information and to register.** Unique to the BMA, this course integrates yoga with art history by focusing on one sculpture from the sculpture garden each week, providing participants the opportunity to practice yoga in a unique and serene art-filled setting. Participants should bring a yoga mat, water, and wear comfortable clothes that allow for stretching. The course is led by experienced Yoga Instructor Brianna Bedigian. Bedigian has a Bachelor's in Art History

and is a certified yoga teacher, hypnotist, stress management consultant, and a Reiki master in both the Usui and Karuna traditions.

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. Throughout the Museum, visitors will find an outstanding selection of 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. As a major cultural destination for the greater Baltimore region, the BMA organizes and presents a variety of dynamic exhibitions and innovative programs throughout the year, and frequently hosts special events with cultural and educational partners. The Museum is located in a park-like setting in the heart of Charles Village and adjacent to the main campus of The Johns Hopkins University. It is distinguished by a grand historic building designed in the 1920s by renowned American architect John Russell Pope with an impressive wing for contemporary art added in 1994.

BMA SCULPTURE GARDENS

Masterworks of modern and contemporary sculpture dramatically emerge in the BMA's Sculpture Gardens, a verdant landscape of art and horticulture that welcomes visitors throughout the year. Nestled on nearly three acres, the two terraced gardens are home to 34 sculptures ranging from Auguste Rodin's striding *Balzac* (1892) to Alexander Calder's soaring red *100 Yard Dash* (1969), and provide a 100-year survey of sculpture from the figural to the abstract. Amidst a beautiful flagstone terrace and fountain, the Janet and Alan Wurtzburger Sculpture Garden highlights early 20th-century works such as modern master Emile-Antoine Bourdelle's figural *Fruit* (1911), Henry Moore's boulder-size, abstract *Three-Piece Reclining Figure No. 1* (1961–1962), and Max Bill's granite interpretation of the Möbius strip, *Endless Ribbon* (1953). The Ryda and Robert H. Levi Sculpture Garden features sloping garden paths and lush foliage that showcase works from the latter half of the 20th century. These include José Ruiz de Rivera's slowly revolving *Construction 140* (1971), Tony Smith's monumental triangle of black steel, *Spitball* (1961), and Michael Heizer's granite fragments of a deconstructed circle, *Eight-Part Circle* (1976/1987).

VISITOR INFORMATION

General admission to the BMA is 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. 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 artbma.org.

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