

**Lower
Manhattan
Cultural
Council**

125 Maiden Lane Fl 2
New York, NY 10038
P 212.219.9401
F 212.219.2058
www.lmcc.net

For information/photos, contact:
Patrick Kowalczyk, patrick@pkpr.com
Jason Gordon, jason@pkpr.com
PKPR, 212.627.8098



WHAT: *Where Does the Dust Itself Collect?:* An installation by Xu Bing.
WHEN: September 8 – October 9
WHERE: Spinning Wheel Bldg, 5 W. 22nd Street, New York (btw. 5th & 6th Aves.)
COST: Free
WEB: <http://insite.lmcc.net/projects-home/?id=15>
<http://www.mocanyc.org>

**XU BING'S AWARD-WINNING EXHIBIT HAS U.S. PREMIERE IN NEW YORK AS
PART OF LMCC'S 10-YEAR 9/11 ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM
INSITE: ART + COMMEMORATION**

***Major 9/11 Project by Renowned Chinese Artist Presented by Lower Manhattan
Cultural Council and Museum of Chinese in America***

New York, NY (August 18, 2011) – In commemoration of the ten-year anniversary of 9/11, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) and Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) will present the first U.S. installation of "*Where Does the Dust Itself Collect?*" by internationally acclaimed Chinese artist Xu Bing in New York at the Spinning Wheel Building, 5 W. 22nd Street, New York (btw. 5th and 6th Aves.) from September 8 – October 9.

The installation is a core component of LMCC's *InSite: Art + Commemoration*, (<http://insite.lmcc.net>) an initiative featuring free arts events, a specially commissioned essay, and a multimedia website, which invite artistic and community response to the 9/11 anniversary. The program runs from August 11-October 11.

Utilizing dust that Xu Bing collected from the streets of Lower Manhattan in the aftermath of 9/11, the installation recreates a 25-by-20-foot field of dust across the gallery floor that is punctuated by the outline of a Chan Buddhist poem, revealed as if the letters have been removed from under the dust.

In this thought-provoking and contemplative large-scale installation, Xu Bing explores the boundaries between the physical and spiritual realms, between permanence and the eternal. Visitors will be invited to experience the installation from a raised viewing platform, as well as see the work in process through accompanying photos.

"Where Does the Dust Itself Collect?" has been exhibited in Berlin and Sao Paulo, and won the first-ever Artes Mundi Prize when it was presented in Wales in 2004. The work makes its US premiere in Manhattan, the site of its inspiration. New Yorkers and visitors alike can see it at a landmark building at a historic moment for the City and the world.

Through LMCC's partnership with MOCA, the exhibit also considers the impact of 9/11 on the Asian community in New York, particularly in Manhattan's Chinatown, which was significant and under-recognized. *"Where Does the Dust Itself Collect?"* provides a unique perspective on a unifying event.

As both a conceptual artist and scholar of Buddhism, Xu Bing has collected and repurposed historical artifacts, from a bicycle flattened by a tank in Tiananmen Square to a glass vessel filled with air from China during the SARS epidemic. For Xu Bing, who moved to New York City in 1992, collecting the dust in the aftermath of 9/11 was part of that same impulse, a way to make sense of a portentous moment in time.

"Xu Bing's work embodies LMCC's efforts to leverage the power of art to reflect on the past, interpret the present and imagine a shared future," said Sam Miller, President of LMCC. "As we commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11, this profound installation will create a space for meditation and reflection on life, loss, and recovery."

"Ten years later, Chinatown is still living with the impact of 9/11 and MOCA's partnership with LMCC to present Xu Bing's remarkable installation is an important moment for all affected communities," adds Herb Tam, Curator and Director of Exhibitions at MOCA. "It will allow audiences an opportunity to reflect as they experience a work of great resonance and complexity."

The premiere of *"Where Does The Dust Itself Collect?"* continues an extraordinary year for Xu Bing, who recently concluded a solo exhibit at the British Museum in London and whose work has been exhibited at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA). His work is currently on view at the Morgan Library and Museum.

The Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) will also present an artist talk by Xu Bing on his award-winning installation on Tuesday, September 13 at 6:30pm. For admission information, please visit <http://www.mocanyc.org>. For the full line-up of LMCC's InSite: Art + Commemoration projects, ideas and resources, visit: <http://insite.lmcc.net>

The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery at Columbia University will concurrently present Xu Bing's *Square Word Calligraphy Classroom*, an interactive installation, which instructs visitors in an artist-designed method of writing English words that resemble Chinese characters.

This exhibit is made possible with the support of the Ford Foundation.

The exhibition space in The Spinning Wheel Building has been generously donated by the Greystone Management Corporation.

About Lower Manhattan Cultural Council

For nearly 40 years, LMCC has been the leading voice for arts and culture in Downtown New York City, producing cultural events and promoting the arts through grants, services, advocacy and cultural development programs. LMCC offers a range of funding opportunities and support services for artists working in all artistic disciplines across Manhattan, and a broad range of free programs in the visual, performing and media arts that help cultivate new arts audiences and improve the quality of urban life. LMCC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supported by a range of foundations, corporations, individuals and government entities. For more information visit LMCC.net.

About Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA)

The Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) is the leading national museum dedicated to preserving and presenting the history and culture of people of Chinese descent in the United States. From its Maya Lin-designed home on the border of Chinatown and SoHo in New York City at 215 Centre Street, MOCA collects and displays historical and cultural artifacts, and organizes traveling exhibitions, classes, discussions, and events that explore all aspects of the Chinese American experience in the United States. MOCA began as a community-based organization founded in 1980, has evolved into a national keeper of cultural information and an influential voice in the ongoing history of Chinese and Chinese American culture across the country. The Museum's original location at 70 Mulberry Street, currently the Collections and Research Center, is in the heart of Chinatown on the second floor of the historic, century-old school building that was once Public School 23. For more information, visit www.mocanyc.org.

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