

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**LOWER MANHATTAN CULTURAL COUNCIL HOLDS
OPEN HOUSE, PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT IN NEW FACILITY
*JPMorgan Chase Funds Move To New, Post Sept. 11 Location***

New York, May 9, 2003 – On Tuesday, May 13, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) will celebrate its 30th anniversary and relocation to One Wall Street Court by opening its doors to the public for a photography exhibit and open house. LMCC was previously housed in the World Trade Center, and was able to relocate and renew its service to the arts in lower Manhattan thanks to a grant from The J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation.

LMCC was founded in 1973 by David Rockefeller, in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Downtown Planning, with a mission to develop the area's cultural life as an essential part of the financial district's revitalization. The terrorist attacks against the World Trade Center left LMCC without a base of operation.

"Thanks to the generosity of JPMorgan Chase we have relocated to One Wall Street Court, creating a new downtown cultural space for artists and the community," said Liz Thompson, executive director, LMCC. "We want to recognize the foundation for its contribution to our new home, and invite the community to enjoy our cultural offerings."

"JPMorgan Chase has a long and well-established reputation for supporting the arts," said Janet Rodriguez, vice president, JPMorgan Chase. "The fact that one of our firm's founders, David Rockefeller, helped launch LMCC made us that much more committed to helping them find a new home. We're pleased to see LMCC once again serving artists and the arts in the financial district."

For more than a decade, LMCC was based in the World Trade Center. Signature programs there included a vibrant studio residency program for visual artists in the Towers and free, world-class music and dance performances on the Plaza. Since September 11, LMCC has brought close to 500 artists to work Downtown through new programs including a visual artist residency in the Woolworth Building and performance series at Historic Battery Park. LMCC is celebrating its 30th anniversary of service to artists and the community by inviting the public to its new gallery, public programs and neighborhood events at One Wall Street Court and throughout Lower Manhattan.

The open house will begin at 7:00 p.m. and preview *Microviews/NYC Unit*, a unique exhibition that explores two distinct periods of downtown history when innovative arts programs took root through government supported initiatives. The show juxtaposes *Microviews*, an archive of

photographs taken by artists in LMCC's World Trade Center studio program from 1997-2001, and *New York City Unit*, photography from the 1935-1942 Federal Writer's Project from the New York City Municipal Archives Collection. There will also be a special performance by violinist Daniel Bernard Roumain, who will appear in LMCC's Evening Stars performance series at Historic Battery Park this September.

Microviews was organized by artists Christopher K. Ho and Stephan Apicella-Hitchcock, and Moukhtar Kocache and Erin Donnelly of the LMCC. *New York City Unit* is a fiscal sponsorship project of the LMCC organized and curated by artist Matthew Bakkom. Bakkom and Apicella-Hitchcock were resident artists in LMCC's World Trade Center program. The exhibition runs through August 1, 2003. Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Gallery Hours are 11 am to 5 pm. *Downtown Dialogue: Microviews/NYC Unit*, a discussion about the archives, will be moderated by Moukhtar Kocache and held at the LMCC Wednesday, June 25, 7-9 pm. The program is free. Call 212-219-9401 x306 to RSVP.

LMCC's 30th Anniversary Summer Season of free programs at One Wall Street Court also features:

Wednesday, May 14, 7-9pm

Downtown Dialogue: New Technology, Traditional Media

Artists who create traditional media discuss ways technology has changed their creative process. Panel discussion will feature Nancy Burson, Colette Gaiter, and Michael Rees; moderated by Bruce Wands. Organized by the New York Digital Salon in conjunction with the exhibition *Vectors: Digital Art of Our Time* on view the World Financial Center Courtyard Gallery and Winter Garden from April 22 through May 25, 2003

Friday, May 16, 7-9pm

Book Launch: Artists' Gestures

The evening features live performances and actions by Raphaëlle De Groot, Carl Bouchard & Martin Dufrasne, and Devora Neumark. The publication accompanies the *Artists' Gestures* exhibition curated by Marie Fraser and Marie-Josée Lafortune and organized by Optica, a contemporary art center, which was presented in Montreal from October 7th to 14th 2001 in conjunction with the Saison du Québec à New York.

Friday, June 13, 7-9pm

Screening: Urban Video Project

7pm Reception; 8pm Preview Screening, followed by question and answer session

This documentary produced by Urban Video students at Satellite Academy examines gentrification in Harlem and the Lower East Side.

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, One Wall Street Court is located at the nexus of Beaver Street, Pearl Street and Wall Street in the heart of lower Manhattan's financial district. The building entrance is on Pearl Street.

Subway and Bus Directions:

2/3/4/5 to Wall Street

J/M/Z to Broad Street

M6 to Broadway and Wall Street

For 30 years, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) has contributed to Downtown's quality of life by creating a fertile and nurturing environment for arts groups and artists, enlivening public spaces with free programs in the visual, performing and new media arts, making public art part of our neighborhood's fabric, and providing leadership in cultural planning and advocacy. Now one of Manhattan's most far-reaching arts councils, LMCC is a primary source of funding, services, creation and presentation opportunities for artists and small arts groups throughout Manhattan's diverse neighborhoods and creative communities. Our programs explore our unique urban environment and celebrate the City's global cultures. Our new One Wall Street Court cultural space at Hanover Square offers a diverse array of gallery exhibitions, public programs and events, and resources for artists. For more information about LMCC and our upcoming programs, visit www.lmcc.net.

J.P. Morgan Chase & Co, the global financial services firm established more than 150 years ago, makes charitable contributions to a wide range of organizations involved in the arts, education, the environment, health and human services, international affairs, and urban affairs through both the JPMorgan Chase Foundation and the firm's offices and subsidiaries around the world.

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