

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## LOWER MANHATTAN CULTURAL COUNCIL PRESENTS LMCC/WORKSPACE: THE WOOLWORTH BUILDING OPEN STUDIO WEEKEND March 20 & 21, 2004; 12-6 p.m. 233 Broadway, 33rd Floor

**New York, February 13, 2004**—The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) marks the end of the second session of the award-winning artist residency program, LMCC/Workspace: The Woolworth Building, with Open Studio Weekend March 20 and 21, 2004. Located high above Manhattan in the landmark Woolworth Building, in space generously donated by The Witkoff Group, 14 artists share their site-inspired work created during a five-month residency on the 33rd floor of the celebrated skyscraper—it's free, informal, and open to the public.

For security reasons, an RSVP is essential to attend all open studio events. Online anytime: [www.lmcc.net/rsvp](http://www.lmcc.net/rsvp) no later than 4 p.m., March 17th. By Phone: 212-219-9401 x100; M-F, 1-5 p.m., no later than March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Workspace artists-in-residence October 2003-March 2004 are:

**Jn. Ulrick Désert, Benj Gerdes, Andrea Geyer, Mariam Ghani, Jeff Grant, Patrick Jackson, Claudia Joskowicz, Angel Nevarez, Frank Parga, Katrin Sigurdardottir, Shinique Amie Smith, Bradley Wood;** Invited Artists / Special Projects: **Trebor Scholz, Shelly Silver.**

In raw, open studios these 14 resident artists present new art works inspired by exceptional views, an aesthetically dynamic site and Lower Manhattan's urban vitality. Representing various mediums such as installation, video and works on paper, the art on view spans ancient, modern, recent, and personal New York City historical themes; other material and influences vary from surveillance equipment to tourist maps, discarded clothing to archival images.

The Woolworth Building residency is LMCC's fourth site for a program that encourages artistic, political and theoretical consideration of location and context. Former residency programs have been in the World Financial Center, DUMBO, Brooklyn, and most notably Tower One of the World Trade Center. This program is key to furthering LMCC's mission by positioning artists in Lower Manhattan, creating ties between arts and business communities, and supporting the careers of artists in all fields. Truly a site-based operation, Workspace artists benefited from the residency's participation with local, civic and educational institutions around City Hall Park such as the Henry Birnbaum Library at Pace University, New York City's Municipal Archives and a state-of-the-art new media facility through the School of Visual Arts MFA Computer Arts Department

### **The Woolworth Building**

The tallest building in the world when completed in 1913, the Woolworth's signature neo-Gothic spire still holds sway in downtown's skyline. Financed by Frank W. Woolworth's five-and-dime empire, the "Cathedral of Commerce" meshed modern engineering with opulent old-world

decoration and materials. The views from the 33<sup>rd</sup> floor include the former WTC site, Battery Park and the harbor, City Hall, the East River and Brooklyn, and the full expanse of Broadway as it weaves uptown.

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## Lower Manhattan Cultural Council

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) is an essential part of Downtown’s cultural landscape and principal player in its (re)development—as it has been for the past 30 years. Through progressive cultural planning, an innovative artist workspace program, a multitude of funding opportunities, and rich calendar of free cultural events in the performance, visual, and new-media arts, LMCC takes a holistic approach to enriching New York City’s creative capital. Responding to its diverse audience and neighborhoods, LMCC pairs a broad range of artists, educators, and cultural groups with programs, services, and financial support that furthers the exploration of New York’s unique urban environment and celebrates its many cultural layers. Following the loss of their office, studio, and programming venues at the World Trade Center, LMCC has re-located to the landmark Cocoa Exchange building in the financial district of Lower Manhattan where it has proudly re-emerged as a new and improved cultural force. Learn more at [www.Lmcc.net](http://www.Lmcc.net).

LMCC’s artist residency and exhibition programs are made possible with support from the Witkoff Group, Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Booth Ferris Foundation, JPMorgan Chase, Jerome Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York Mercantile Exchange Charitable Foundation, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, American Express and the many individuals who participated in the charity auction of photographs by Annie Leibovitz in the recent *Rewarding Lives* exhibition.

LMCC/Workspace: The Woolworth Building receives in-kind support from the Alliance for Downtown New York; the Center for Downtown New York at Pace University; the New York City Municipal Archives; NYCwireless; and the School of Visual Arts MFA Computer Arts Department.

