



Cambridge Arts Council

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 10, 2009

**Media Contacts:**

Mara Littman, Dir. of Marketing & PR

617-349-4382 or [mlittman@cambridgema.gov](mailto:mlittman@cambridgema.gov)

Lillian Hsu, Dir. of Public Art & Exhibitions

617-349-4389 or [lhsu@cambridgema.gov](mailto:lhsu@cambridgema.gov)

**CAC Gallery and Agassiz Baldwin Community present:**

## **Breaking Ground**

*The past, present, and future of the  
Maud Morgan Visual Art Center*

September 28 – December 18, 2009

### **FIRST MONDAYS @ CAC GALLERY - Free Artist Receptions**

October 5, November 2, December 7, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

featuring live performances, food & community

CAC Gallery, Cambridge Arts Council, City Hall Annex  
344 Broadway, 2nd Floor, Cambridge

Cambridge, MA – The Cambridge Arts Council's CAC Gallery presents ***Breaking Ground***, an exhibition and community project that showcases the past, present and future of the Maud Morgan Visual Art Center (MMVAC), the culmination of a vision for an arts center that serves all ages. Coinciding with the ground-breaking on Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at 20 Sacramento Street, ***Breaking Ground*** illustrates the history of the MMVAC and will include architectural plans and materials, representations of work by eight Cambridge artists for the new building, and artwork by the late Maud Morgan, a widely loved and respected leader in the Cambridge art world for four decades.

Additional programming for ***Breaking Ground*** includes **studio classes** for children and adults, three **First Monday @ CAC Gallery** receptions on October 5, November 2 and December 7, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., artist talks, and film screenings, all to take place at the CAC Gallery, 344 Broadway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl., Cambridge.

“The Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center will significantly nurture the arts in Cambridge and provide a valuable art resource for all generations of residents. Families from throughout the city will be able to utilize and benefit from the year-round programming offered by the Center. This community art center also plays a vital role in the development of an arts district in Porter Square that includes Lesley University and the Art Institute of Boston,” said **Jason Weeks, Executive Director of the Cambridge Arts Council**.

“The development of the new Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center is a culmination of support and participation from the city of Cambridge, residents, and many members of the arts community. We especially appreciate the Cambridge Arts Council’s efforts to broaden awareness of the Center with an exhibition and class space as we break ground and realize this dream,” commented **Terry DeLancey, Executive Director of Agassiz Baldwin Community and the Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center.**

For more information, please contact the Cambridge Arts Council at [www.cambridgeartscouncil.org](http://www.cambridgeartscouncil.org) or 617-349-4380. Learn more about the Maud Morgan Visual Art Center at [www.agassiz.org](http://www.agassiz.org).

:: Press Photos for download: [www.cambridgema.gov/gallery/?albumID=334&level=album](http://www.cambridgema.gov/gallery/?albumID=334&level=album)

## **FIRST MONDAYS @ CAC GALLERY**

**October 5, November 2, December 7, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

The Cambridge Arts Council hosts three free receptions featuring live performances, food, and community during the course of the exhibition. Receptions feature opportunities to learn more about the Maud Morgan Visual Art Center and its educational programs. All FIRST MONDAYS @ CAC GALLERY events are free and open to the public. See below for descriptions.

**Monday, October 5, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

### ***Breaking Ground* Opening Reception**

Celebrate the start of construction for this long-awaited art center for Cambridge, and learn about all aspects of the project as well as its namesake, Maud Morgan.

**Monday, November 2, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

### **Artist /Architect Collaboration: Meet the Artists**

The MMVAC building and site include art installations by eight local artists: Gail Boyajian, John Devaney, Phyllis Ewen, Linda Lichtman, Mitch Ryerson, Rhonda Smith, John Tagiuri, and Nancy Webb. Meet the artists, hear about their work, and learn about the collaborative process with the architects.

**Monday, December 7, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

### **Community Arts: Making Art with Children & Families**

A preview of the art education programs and opportunities for children and adults available at the future MMVAC.

## **ARTS CLASSES**

All classes listed below will be held at the CAC Gallery, 344 Broadway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl., Cambridge. To learn more or to register, please contact Micah Woods at 617-349-6287 or [mwoods@agassiz.org](mailto:mwoods@agassiz.org).

### ***Comics Monday*** – (for Middle School Students)

Mondays, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Session 1: September 14-November 2, 2009 (6 classes: no class on Sept. 28 and Oct. 12)

Session 2: November 9-December 14, 2009 (6 classes)

Cost: \$120

### ***Life Drawing Monday*** – (for Adults)

Mondays, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Session 1: September 14-November 2, 2009 (6 classes: no class on Sept. 28 and Oct. 12)

Session 2: November 9-December 14, 2009 (6 classes)

Cost: \$120

### **Evening Workshops** – (for Adults)

Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

September 30-December 16, 2009 (10 classes: no class on November 11 and 25)  
Each workshop features artist demonstrations and hands-on workshops, led by noted local artists, including those who have designed site-specific pieces for The Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center. Sign-up for one or all workshops.  
Cost: \$20 suggested donation for each workshop session. Proceeds will be shared equally between artists and the MMVAC building fund.

### **The Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center**

The Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center will be built at 20 Sacramento Street in the Agassiz Baldwin neighborhood of Cambridge. Designed by architects Prellwitz/Chilinski Associates, the new facility will include a re-creation of the 19<sup>th</sup> century carriage house on the property of the Agassiz Baldwin Neighborhood Council. A substantial new addition will give the MMVAC a total of approximately 3,000 square feet of classroom, studio, and exhibition space to serve school-age children and practicing artists from every neighborhood in Cambridge. Artists commissioned for permanent installations in and around the building include Gail Boyajian, John Devaney, Phyllis Ewen, Linda Lichtman, Mitch Ryerson, Rhonda Smith, John Tagiuri, and Nancy Webb.

### **Maud Morgan (1903-1999)**

The Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center honors the spirit of Maud Morgan, a dearly beloved Cambridge artist who was a vibrant member of the Cambridge arts community. A boundless optimist, she celebrated being alive with verve, and regarded art as the most essential ingredient of a full life. She was an ardent champion of emerging artists, and strongly believed in the value of arts education.

Maud's talent as an artist was recognized early, when she began exhibiting in New York in the 1930s. She lived and worked in Andover, Massachusetts in the 1940s, teaching art at the Abbott Academy, and exhibiting in Boston. She came to Cambridge in the late 1950s, and later moved to the Agassiz neighborhood, exhibiting regularly at the Barbara Singer Gallery here. Her work included painting, printmaking, papermaking, and collage, and is in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, and Museum of Modern Art in New York. She had one-person shows at Massachusetts College of Art and Design, the Fuller Craft Museum, Addison Gallery, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Throughout her career, she was a source of inspiration for dozens of artists, young and old. Her *joie de vivre* was infectious, and she touched the lives of all who knew her.

---

### **CAC Gallery hours:**

M, W: 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.; T, TH: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; F: 8:30 a.m. - Noon

CAC Gallery is located in the Cambridge City Hall Annex at 344 Broadway, at the corner of Broadway and Inman Street. Metered parking is available on Inman Street and Broadway.

Directions via MBTA: Take the MBTA Red Line to Central Square. At street level proceed west on Massachusetts Avenue (towards Harvard Square) to Inman Street. Turn right and proceed north for four blocks to Broadway. Turn left and walk one block to Inman Street.

The Cambridge Arts Council is supported in part by the City of Cambridge, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, the LEF Foundation, and many individual and corporate donors.

CAC does not discriminate on the basis of disability. CAC will provide auxiliary aids and service, written materials in alternate formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon request.

### **Cambridge Arts Council – *Nurturing the Arts in Cambridge***

The Cambridge Arts Council exists to ensure that the arts remain vital for people living, working and visiting Cambridge. [www.cambridgeartscouncil.org](http://www.cambridgeartscouncil.org) or 617-349-4380.

###