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The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs Receives National Endowment for the Arts Grant Supporting RADAR L.A. 2013 International Festival of Contemporary Theater

Grant is One of 817 NEA Art Works Grants Totaling \$26.3 Million in Funding Nationwide

Los Angeles - National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Acting Chairman Joan Shigekawa announced today that the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) is one of 817 nonprofit organizations nationwide to receive an NEA Art Works grant. DCA is recommended for a \$60,000 grant to support **RADAR L.A. 2013**. Funding from the NEA compliments already committed funding from DCA, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the National Performance Network, and the New England Foundation for the Arts National Theater Project.

RADAR L.A. 2013, an International Festival of Contemporary Theater, will take place **September 24 through October 6, 2013.** RADAR L.A. will bring some of the world's most influential theater artists to downtown L.A. It will also invest in the future vitality of L.A.'s performing arts community with a unique residency program that allows Los Angeles based-ensembles to create new works and put them in the global spotlight.

The festival and residency programs build on momentum from the inaugural RADAR L.A. 2011 Festival, which featured 90 performances of 15 productions, engaging over 200 artists from the Western United States, Latin America, and the Pacific Rim - reflecting varied cultural influences that shape L.A. More than 11,000 diverse patrons circulated between ten locations, experiencing affordable theatrical presentations, site-specific events, social gatherings, and symposia.

The Los Angeles Times called the 2011 RADAR L.A. festival, "...a glorious convergence of contemporary performance. The inaugural theater festival offered fleeting encounters with cockeyed universes. In other words, it was a resounding success. As a renewal of theatrical possibility and as an expander of audience sensibility, Radar L.A. is an invaluable addition to the city's cultural ecology."



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Now in its second edition, DCA is again a major supporter of RADAR L.A. as part of a presenting consortium led by REDCAT (Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater) and Center Theatre Group. Additional partners include: the Los Angeles Stage Alliance, Los Angeles Theatre Center and the Latino Theater Company, as well as Theatre Communications Group, and The Public Theater in New York. These respected organizations have joined forces to provide greater voice and visibility to contemporary theater from Los Angeles and around the world with artists who are creating works that resist easy definitions. RADAR L.A. is inspired by the highly successful New York-based Under the Radar Festival, produced by The Public Theater, but the festival is a fully Los Angeles-based endeavor.

The experienced curatorial team of Mark Murphy (REDCAT), Diane Rodriguez (Center Theatre Group), and Mark Russell (The Public Theater) is assembling a provocative program that will involve innovative artists who stretch the boundaries of traditional theater and community-based projects exploring urgent social issues that engage the voices of often overlooked residents. The programming highlights cultural influences that reflect L.A.'s demographics, presenting artists from Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Japan, and Indonesia, as well as interdisciplinary collaborations merging dance, theater, music, and new media. RADAR L.A. 2013 will offer affordable ticket prices, encouraging people to attend multiple events.

Acting Chairman Shigekawa said, "The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support these exciting and diverse arts projects that will take place throughout the United States. Whether it is through a focus on education, engagement, or innovation, these projects all contribute to vibrant communities and memorable opportunities for the public to engage with the arts."

"We are thrilled to announce that the National Endowment for the Arts will join forces with the Los Angeles theater community to once again bring the RADAR L.A. International Festival of Contemporary Theater to our adventurous theater going public. Angelenos will be joined by theater professionals and performing arts presenters from around the country, and around the world, who will be descending on L.A. to experience new theatrical and interdisciplinary works. DCA is proud to have been selected to receive NEA support and pleased to once again be working with such an outstanding group of partners," said Olga Garay-English, DCA's Executive Director. "DCA is committed to the development of artists, to broadening access to the arts, and to strengthening our neighborhoods through high quality arts and cultural experiences. RADAR L.A. is an extension of this commitment."

In August 2012, the NEA received 1,547 eligible applications for Art Works grants requesting more than \$80 million in funding. Art Works grants support the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts,



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and the strengthening of communities through the arts. The 817 recommended NEA grants total \$26.3 million and span 13 artistic disciplines and fields. Applications were reviewed by panels of outside experts convened by NEA staff and each project was judged on its artistic excellence and artistic merit.

For a complete listing of projects recommended for Art Works grant support, please visit the NEA website at arts.gov.

About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

The **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** generates and supports high quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles' 4 million residents and 26 million annual visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and ensures access to diverse and enriching cultural activities through: grant making, marketing, public art, community arts programming, arts education, and building partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles.

DCA's operating budget and managed portfolio totals \$39.8 million in fiscal year 2012/13. It consists of: \$11 million in funds from the Public Works Improvements Arts Program (PWIAP); \$10.8 million in City related and indirect cost allocations; \$6.7 million from the Private Arts Development Fee Program (ADF); \$9.2 million in Transient Occupancy Tax funds; and over \$2.1 million in private and public funds raised from foundation, corporate, government, and individual donors.

DCA significantly supports artists and cultural projects through its Public Art Division by administering a portfolio totaling \$17.7 million in PWIAP and ADF funds in FY12/13. DCA's Marketing and Development Division has raised over \$20 million since FY07/08 to re-grant to LA-based artists and arts and cultural organizations for special grant initiatives and to support DCA's special programming and facilities. DCA also grants approximately \$2.2 million annually to over 280 artists and nonprofit arts and cultural organizations through its long-established Grants Administration Division.

DCA provides arts and cultural programming through its Community Arts Division, managing numerous neighborhood arts and cultural centers, theaters, historic sites, and educational initiatives. DCA's Marketing and Development Division also markets the City's arts and cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative catalogs, publications, and promotional materials, and management of the <u>culturela.org</u> website visited by over 3 million people annually.