



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 14, 2009

**Contact:** Emma Fisher  
202.315.1312  
[emma@culturaldc.org](mailto:emma@culturaldc.org)

## Cultural Development Corporation and NoMa BID Enliven Store Fronts with *Construct: Space Transformed*, a Series of Temporary Art Installations



Billy Friebele & Michael Dax Iacovone

**Washington, DC** – NoMa Business Improvement District (NoMa BID) and Cultural Development Corporation (CuDC) will work in partnership on *Construct: Space Transformed*, a series of temporary public art installations in retail spaces in NoMa. CuDC is thrilled to extend its visual arts program beyond the Flashpoint Gallery this season to mount an exhibition in NoMa, the area north of Union Station and Massachusetts Avenue. Activating the streetscape will enliven NoMa, draw visitors to the area and help make art a distinctive part of the neighborhood. The project opens on **October 22, 2009 from 6-8 pm** with a reception in the lobby of 1100 First Street, NE and runs through January 5, 2010.

“One of the BID’s primary objectives is to enliven the streets of NoMa, and this project is a wonderful opportunity to incorporate local, unique art as we bring people to the sidewalks of the neighborhood,” said NoMa BID President Liz Price.

Artists participating in the project are Jessica Van Brakle, Anthony Cervino, Billy Friebele, Michael Dax Iacovone and Juan Tejedor. Each artist will respond to themes of systems and building in their site-specific installation.



- **Jessica Van Brakle's** paintings combine hard-edged shapes, geometric forms of construction cranes and curvilinear botanical motifs.
- **Juan Tejedor** uses found wires, paint, yarn and tape to create installations that respond to both natural and man-made systems and networks.
- Mapping and systems are also seminal in the work of **Billy Friebele** and **Michael Dax Iacovone**. Friebele and Iacovone will collaborate to create an installation and videos based on walks through NoMa.
- **Anthony Cervino** playfully examines social structures and notions of habitation in his large, hybrid birdhouse sculptures.

“Cohen Companies is committed to making the arts a vital part of the community in NoMa,” said Eric Siegel, Executive Vice President of The Cohen Companies, lead sponsor of the project. “In addition to sponsoring this project, we have included artist housing at The Loree Grand at Union Place so that artists can make a home for themselves in the NoMa neighborhood.”

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**Opening Reception:** Thursday, October 22, 6-8pm

**Preview:** Thursday, October 22, 5-6pm

RSVP: <http://www.nomabid.org/events/construct.cfm>

**Walking Tours:** Thursday, November 5, 5-6pm & Thursday, November 19, 12-1pm

RSVP to [karyn@culturaldc.org](mailto:karyn@culturaldc.org).

**Exhibition:** October 22 – January 5, 2010

**For more information:** Visit [nomabid.org](http://nomabid.org)

Lead sponsorship of *Construct* provided by Loree Grand at Union Place, a development project of The Cohen Companies + TIAA CREF.

Additional funding is provided by Wachovia.

Special thanks to the following property owners for generously donating their spaces to this project: Capitol Plaza VNPG LLC, Brookfield Asset Management, Brookfield Properties and Tishman Speyer.

**About NoMa BID**

Located just north of Capitol Hill and Union Station, the NoMa Business Improvement District (BID) was created by the District of Columbia City Council and approved by the Mayor in March 2007. The BID supports the emergence of NoMa as one of the District's most exciting mixed-use neighborhoods. Through a special assessment collected from property owners in a 35-block area, the BID is helping to make NoMa safe, clean, and attractive for businesses, residents, and visitors. Its main tasks include: providing cleaning and safety services; promoting NoMa through marketing and community events; coordinating public and private investments and services and enhancing the community by promoting employment and community projects with NoMa neighbors.



**About Cultural Development Corporation**

Cultural Development Corporation creates opportunities for artists and arts organizations that stimulate economic development and improve the quality of life. We envision the arts driving economic and community development as an integral part of DC's vibrant metropolitan area. Our scope includes service to artists and arts organizations, property owners, developers and residents throughout the DC metropolitan area. Cultural Development Corporation is generously supported by The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, The Kresge Foundation, the MARPAT Foundation, the Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, Prince Charitable Trusts, The Summit Fund and many other generous partners.

CuDC's Visual Arts Program is made possible in part through a generous grant from Altria Group, Inc. and from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

**C U L T U R A L   D E V E L O P M E N T   C O R P O R A T I O N**

**9 1 6   G   S t r e e t ,   N W   •   W a s h i n g t o n ,   D C   2 0 0 0 1**

**General: 202-315-1305   Press: 202-315-1312   Fax: 202-315-1303**

**E-mail: [emma@culturaldc.org](mailto:emma@culturaldc.org)**

- ### -