

MEDIA ADVISORY

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**CHARLES RAY AND ALICE WATERS ARE THE HAMMER'S HONOREES
FOR THE GALA IN THE GARDEN ON OCTOBER 9, 2010**
With tributes by Jeff Wall and Jane Fonda

The Hammer Museum will present its annual Gala in the Garden on **October 9, 2010**—proceeds from the Gala will once again support the Hammer's dynamic and nationally acclaimed exhibitions and free public programs. Every year the Museum honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the arts. This year we are thrilled to honor two remarkable creative forces—artist **Charles Ray** and author, chef, and food activist **Alice Waters**. **Viveca Paulin** and **Will Ferrell** will chair the event and artist **Jeff Wall** will give the tribute to Ray and actress **Jane Fonda** will be on hand to toast Waters.

The Gala in the Garden is a highly anticipated event on Los Angeles' fall social calendar and attracts cultural and civic leaders, as well as many artists, collectors, and patrons of the arts. Last year's event was a milestone for the Hammer as over \$1.2 million was raised for the Museum by the event. Chef **Suzanne Goin** of Lucques, A.O.C. and Tavern, once again will create the menu. Past tribute speakers and co-chairs have included actress **Diane Keaton**, writer **Salman Rushdie**, writer/director **John Waters**, **Senator Edward Kennedy**, actor/director **Ben Stiller**, actress **Anjelica Huston**, artist **Richard Serra**, and critic **Dave Hickey**; past honorees include **Miuccia Prada**, **John Baldessari**, **Joan Didion**, **Ed Ruscha**, **Dave Eggers**, and **Frank Gehry**. The Gala has sold out in advance each of the past seven years.

Tables of ten are sold in advance in three price tiers: \$50,000 for a Champion table; \$25,000 for a Benefactor Table; and \$15,000 for a Patron Table. Individual tickets can be purchased at each tier: \$5,000 for a Champion seat; \$2,500 for a Benefactor seat; and \$1,500 for a Patron seat.

ALICE WATERS

Alice Waters revolutionized the way Americans eat, cook, and think about food. As a chef, author, and the proprietor of the world-renowned Chez Panisse, Waters has developed a culinary philosophy that maintains that cooking should be based on the finest and freshest seasonal ingredients produced sustainably and locally. She has been credited with creating and developing California Cuisine and has helped bring together a large community of local farmers and ranchers who are dedicated to sustainable agriculture. With a commitment to education, Waters established the Chez Panisse Foundation in 1996. The Foundation's nationally recognized Edible Schoolyard Program is dedicated to transforming public schools by supporting projects that integrate gardening, cooking, and the sharing of a daily school lunch into the core academic curriculum. She is also the author of nine cookbooks.

CHARLES RAY

Charles Ray is widely regarded as one of the most significant artists of his generation. He is best known for his sculptures of altered and refashioned familiar objects. In 1993, Ray made *Firetruck*, a 12-by-47-foot replica of a toy fire truck, which he "parked" in front of the Whitney Museum of American Art. In 2007 the artist completed a ten-year project – a re-creation in Japanese cypress of a fallen and rotting tree he had found in a meadow – hand carved by Japanese master woodworkers. Recently, Ray installed *Boy with Frog* at the Punta della Dogana, Venice. Grand in size and realized with a smooth white finish that references the important tradition of marble sculpture in Italy, it depicts a boy holding a goliath frog above the Grand Canal. Ray has exhibited at Documenta IX, Venice Biennales in 1993 and 2003, four Whitney Biennials, and he has had several one-person museum exhibitions. He lives and works in Los Angeles.

ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM

The Hammer Museum, a public arts unit of the University of California, Los Angeles, is dedicated to exploring the diversity of artistic expression through the ages. Its collections, exhibitions, and programs span the classic to the cutting-edge in art, architecture, and design, recognizing that artists play a crucial role in all aspects of culture and society.

The museum houses the Armand Hammer Collection of Old Master, Impressionist, and Post-Impressionist paintings and the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection. The Hammer's newest collection, the Hammer Contemporary Collection, is highlighted by works on paper, particularly drawings and photographs from Southern California. The museum also houses the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, comprising more than 45,000 prints, drawings, photographs, and artists' books from the Renaissance to the present; and oversees the management of the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden on the UCLA campus.

The Hammer presents major single-artist and thematic exhibitions of historical and contemporary art. It also presents approximately ten Hammer Projects exhibitions each year, providing international and local artists with a laboratory-like environment to create new work or to present existing work in a new context.

As a cultural center, the Hammer offers a diverse range of free public programs throughout the year, including lectures, readings, symposia, film screenings, and music performances. The Hammer's Billy Wilder Theater houses these widely acclaimed public programs and is the new home of the UCLA Film & Television Archive's renowned cinematheque.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

For current program and exhibition information call **310-443-7000** or visit **www.hammer.ucla.edu**.

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 11am – 7pm; Thursday, 11am – 9 pm; Sunday, 11am – 5 pm; closed Mondays, July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Admission: \$7 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65+) and UCLA Alumni Association members; free for Museum members, students with identification, UCLA faculty/staff, and visitors 17 and under. The Museum is free for everyone on Thursdays.

Location/Parking: The Hammer is located at 10899 Wilshire Boulevard, at Westwood Boulevard. Parking is available under the Museum. Rate is \$3 for three hours with Museum validation.

Hammer Museum Tours: For group tour reservations and information, call 310-443-7041.