

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release:** August 17, 2012 Contact: Morgan Kroll, Public Relations Associate, 310-443-7016, mkroll@hammer.ucla.edu

# Hammer Forums This Fall With Michael Steele, Thomas Mann, T-Bone Burnett & More

Los Angeles—The Hammer Museum presents three public forums this fall. **Hammer Forum** is an ongoing series of timely, thought-provoking events that addresses current social and political issues. Admission is free. Visit hammer.ucla.edu for details.

# Tuesday, September 11, 7:30pm

# In Search of the Center

In a political climate charged with fierce partisanship and negative rhetoric, Democratic strategist and former Clinton White House counsel **Lanny Davis** and former Republican National Committee Chairman **Michael Steele** discuss strategies for bridging the red-blue divide. Motivated by a desire for bipartisanship and civility, Davis and Steele founded Purple Nation Solutions, a D.C.-based government affairs, legal crisis management, and strategic communications firm.

# Tuesday, October 16, 7:30pm

# The New Politics of Extremism

Long time Washington insiders **Norman Ornstein** and **Thomas Mann** join us to discuss why they believe that Washington is not working for the American people and who is responsible. Ornstein, a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, writes a weekly column for *Roll Call* called "Congress Inside Out" and is an election eve analyst for CBS News. Congressional scholar **Thomas Mann** is a senior fellow in governance studies at the Brookings Institution. Both are authors of the best-seller *It's Even Worse Than It Looks: How the American Constitutional System Collided with the New Politics of Extremism.* 

# Wednesday, November 14, 7:30pm Artists' Rights and Internet Freedom

Award-winning producer **T-Bone Burnett** and digital entertainment scholar **Jonathan Taplin** illuminate the debate over intellectual property rights versus Internet freedom. Burnett is a 12-time Grammy-winning composer and producer and a vocal advocate of artists' rights. Taplin, who opposes anti-piracy laws, is the director of the USC Annenberg Innovation Lab, a member of the California Broadband Task Force, and the CEO of Intertainer, the pioneer in video-on-demand.

Hammer Forum is moderated by **Ian Masters**, journalist, author, screenwriter, documentary filmmaker, and host of the radio programs *Background Briefing*, Sundays at 11AM, and *The Daily Briefing*, Monday through Thursday at 5PM, on KPFK 90.7 FM.

ALL HAMMER PUBLIC PROGRAMS ARE FREE. Hammer members receive priority seating, subject to availability. Reservations not accepted, RSVPs not required.

#### 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: \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65+) and UCLA Alumni Association members; free for Museum members, students with identification, UCLA faculty/staff, military personnel, veterans, and visitors 17 and under. The Museum is free on Thursdays for all visitors. Public programs are always free.

**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. Bicycles park free.

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