

interactions/interruptions
Ten Years of Public Art in Memphis

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Temporary Public Art Project Installation Begins Today

Memphis, TN – Artist **Anthony Lee** is adorning the wall adjacent to Central Station on the west side of **South Main**, south of GE Patterson, with 25 painted symbols from contemporary life. Anthony is partnering with MATA for permission to use the space and with volunteers from the Center for Outreach in the Development of the Arts (CODA) Program at Rhodes College to paint the symbols on the 700-foot concrete wall. The painting will begin tonight, Thursday, January 24. During the **South Main Trolley Tour on Friday, January 25**, viewers will be able to witness the process as Anthony and his volunteers work on site.

Anthony's project, *Modern Hieroglyphs*, is the first of the 10 Temporary Public Art Projects to be installed as part of the UrbanArt Commission's (UAC) *Interactions/Interruptions: 10 Years of Public Art in Memphis*.

Interactions/Interruptions: 10 Years of Public Art in Memphis, is a multi-faceted public art exhibition that celebrates the UrbanArt Commission's 10th Anniversary. Starting in January and culminating in March 2008, **10 temporary public art projects** will be displayed throughout Memphis, including one large-scale public art piece by a nationally acclaimed artist, five by local artists, and four by college-level art students.

In addition to the 10 temporary public art projects, *Interactions/Interruptions* consists of the following components:

- An exhibit at the Memphis College of Art that shows viewers the behind-the-scenes work of public art. The exhibit, which runs through January 30, showcases models, plans, photographs, DVD's, projections and working drawings by some of the 56 artists the UAC has worked with to create close to 70 public art projects.
- An educational pod cast/DVD is being created to acquaint viewers with information about selected projects, the relevance of the locale of each artwork, and the history of the UAC and our mission.

Interactions/Interruptions is made possible by the UrbanArt Commission through the generous support of First Tennessee Bravo Awards, Hyde Family Foundations, National Endowment for the Arts, Deupree Family Foundation, Memphis College of Art, Waddell & Associates, Tennessee Arts Commission, ArtsMemphis, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Goodman and Scott and Carolyn Heppel.

The UrbanArt Commission was formed in 1998 to create a dynamic, nurturing, vibrant community through art and design. What began as a small program incubated within ArtsMemphis has grown into a successful nonprofit that has overseen the completion of over \$6 million in art enhancements. For more information please contact: Elizabeth Alley, 901-525-0880.