



For Immediate Release

## **Luminato's *StreetScape* program re-imagines urban spaces**

### **The city becomes the gallery, as outdoor art transforms Toronto**

TORONTO, {May 14, 2008} – Luminato's *StreetScape*, in association with the Art Gallery of Ontario and in collaboration with Manifesto Community Projects, re-imagines urban space as Toronto becomes host to some of the world's best large-scale wall painting, drawing and street art.

From June 6-15, top street artists, wall-painters and boundary-pushing multimedia creators re-imagine Toronto's post-industrial waterfront, housing communities, and urban spaces in the midst of revitalization as monumental canvases. Large in scale, bold and beautiful in content, these transformed regions of Toronto will become an inspiration for public creativity, as cutting-edge contemporary art moves onto the streets in a celebration of colour and light.

*StreetScape* spans varied corners of the city: from Brookfield Place to Regent Park, to the Parliament and Jarvis Street slips, as public spaces and surfaces are transformed into works of art.

#### ***StreetScape at Sam Pollock Square, Brookfield Place***

June 6-15 ALL DAY

Brookfield Place, 181 Bay St

Visiting New York-based artist **Jesse Bransford** produces a room-sized interactive installation in the heart of downtown Toronto, inviting the *StreetScape* audience to move around the city on a path of discovery. The history of cartography and satellite imagery provides inspiration for this work which ties together all of the *StreetScape* venues, and offers intriguing surprises for curious art enthusiasts.

Curated by Sam Rauch (NYC), Curator, Visiting/International Artists.

#### ***StreetScape at Regent Park Living Space***

June 13-15, 6:00-11:00 p.m. at Regent Park

Drawing from partnerships in the local community, several major components of Luminato's *StreetScape* exhibition combine in the attempt to reflect the people and

activities of Regent Park – a diverse community and Canada’s pioneering social housing project. The process-driven installations aim to confer importance on the residents as individuals and to celebrate the life that makes up Regent Park as a community. This celebration is entitled *Living Space*.

Local programming produced in partnership with Manifesto Community Projects.

### **Youth Workshops and Mentorship Sessions**

The heart of Luminato’s *StreetScape* exhibition is an eight-week series of mentorship and workshops with fifteen youth drawn from Pathways to Education. Youth participants are given the opportunity to learn about art interpretation and storytelling in preparation for becoming Luminato *StreetScape* tour guides throughout the Festival’s closing weekend, June 13-15. In concert, the youth play a hands-on role in the production of the art pieces. For example, select photographs from a May 3 mentorship session with renowned urban photographer **Jamel Shabazz** are being painted into murals and used to inspire massive projections during later workshop sessions.

### **Projection Portraits**

Produced by Che Kothari and Ryan Patterson of Hightop Studio, projections of Regent Park community members’ portraits will be splashed across multiple buildings throughout Regent Park, creating narratives from the experiences of community members. These multi-channel narratives will be projected on a giant scale, creating dialogue between the buildings and also celebrating community memory.

### **Art Posters**

Toronto-based photographer Dan Bergeron mentors two youth while completing a residency in Regent Park. During the mentorship, the youth will also act as Dan’s guides. The residency will result in large poster portraits of Regent Park residents.

### **Urban Beautification Showcase**

Five organizations engaged in urban beautification showcase their top street and mural artists while providing interactive workshops for Regent Park youth. Participant organizations include Harbourfront Community Centre Graffiti Transformation Program, Style in Progress, Them.ca, Seventh Generation Image Makers, and Dixon Hall.

### **Orientation Centre**

Acting as the site hub, the Regent Park Focus Youth Arts Media Centre transforms into an orientation centre complete with maps, a media / press centre, documentation of the process and information about Regent Park Focus. Programming also includes interactive audio tours, a special Festival issue of *Catch*

*Da Flava* – a print magazine produced by young people in the Regent Park area – and online videos produced by participating youth.

Curated by Devon Ostrom, Curator, Local Programming, with Seema Jethalal, Project Manager, Local Programming.

**Visiting Artist: Oliver Herring (NYC) at Regent Park**

Internationally-acclaimed sculptor, photographer, video and performance artist Oliver Herring presents two projects at Regent Park as part of *Living Space*.

On June 14th, Herring and a committee of local youth volunteers will host an event known as TASK, best described as a participatory-performance-art-making-party. At TASK parties, audience members become the performers as a wealth of props, creative supplies and a few simple rules create an infectious atmosphere of creativity, experimentation, co-operation and fun amongst people of all ages and from all walks of life.

From June 13-15, Regent Park will also be the site of the premiere of Herring's latest video work, a piece featuring improvised performances from young Regent Park residents, to be projected outdoors in the environment in which it was filmed.

Curated by Sam Rauch (NYC), Curator, Visiting/International Artists.

**StreetScape at Parliament Street Slip: Housepaint**

June 13: 4:00 p.m.– Midnight

June 14: Noon – Midnight

June 15: 11:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.

Over the final three days of Luminato, June 13-15, ten simplified houses will be painted live by top Canadian street artists in public view. The houses will be surrounded by fencing partially covered with hundreds of 12x12” painted canvases. These smaller works will be distributed to audience members during the final hours of the Festival as souvenirs of the site-specific installation.

Confirmed artists include:

**CANT; CASE; DIXON; EGR; ELICSER; EVOKE; HVW8; LEASE; OTHER,** and more to be announced. Check [www.luminato.com](http://www.luminato.com) for updates.

Curated by Devon Ostrom, Curator, Local Programming, with Seema Jethalal, Project Manager, Local Programming.

Local programming produced in partnership with Manifesto Community Projects, June 13-15 at the Parliament Street slip.

*StreetScape* at Parliament Street slip is presented with support from Biotherm.

### **StreetScape at Jarvis Street Slip**

Billboard painting brightens the Jarvis Street slip as lake-farers soak in the view from the Luminato Link. Ride the Luminato Link – the free boat linking Festival-goers between Luminato’s closing weekend celebrations at Harbourfront Centre and the Distillery District.

The Luminato Link’s operation hours may be found at [www.luminato.com](http://www.luminato.com)

The Luminato Link and *StreetScape* at Parliament Street and Jarvis Street slips are presented by Waterfront Toronto.

### **StreetScape blog**

Artists and curators provide behind the scenes insight into the *StreetScape* project on a special *StreetScape* blog at [www.luminato.com](http://www.luminato.com) .

### **Related event:**

#### ***ReSurface @ The Drake Hotel***

1150 Queen Street West

By Style in Progress

Saturday, June 7, 12:00-7:00 p.m.

Live graffiti art, breakdancing, & music in the alley. All ages.

-30-

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### **ABOUT LUMINATO**

For 10 extraordinary days in June, the vibrant city of Toronto’s stages, streets and public spaces are illuminated with arts and creativity. Luminato is an annual multidisciplinary celebration of theatre, dance, classical and contemporary music, film, literature, visual arts, design and more. **Luminato 2008 is June 6-15.**

For more information on both free and ticketed Luminato events, including dates, locations and schedules, visit [www.luminato.com](http://www.luminato.com). Tickets are available through all Ticketmaster outlets (call 416-872-1111 or visit [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)).

The Festival's first donors, called Founding Luminaries, were vital to the visioning and success of the inaugural Festival and establishing a world-class annual celebration of arts, culture and creativity. The Festival's Luminaries ensure Luminato continues to present Canadian and World premieres, innovative new work and unexpected collaborations that result in memorable moments of artistic excellence.

Luminato gratefully acknowledges the generous support and vision of its Luminaries; corporate sponsors, particularly our presenting sponsor, L'Oréal; our dedicated government partners, especially the Government of Ontario, the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage, and other supporters.

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This list represents commitments as of April 28, 2008. Additional Luminaries, sponsors, government partners, and individual donors will be announced shortly.

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