Denver Art Museum Exhibition Debuts New Direction for Renowned Contemporary Artist in *Nick Cave: Sojourn*

Opening June 9, the exhibition includes new work and incorporates a collaborative public performance

(From Release)

The Denver Art Museum (DAM) will present a new body of work by renowned contemporary artist Nick Cave in *Nick Cave: Sojourn*, on view June 9–September 22, 2013. Taking visitors on a journey through the artist's imagination, the exhibition will feature approximately 40 new artworks including more than 20 new *Soundsuits*. Cave's multi-sensory, immersive installation will transport visitors to a magical world of color, texture, sound and movement. It will be a ticketed exhibition, free for DAM members.

“Sojourn represents a significant departure in Nick Cave's career, introducing monumentally scaled work that will offer visitors an immersive experience and new narratives in Cave's oeuvre,” said William Morrow, Polly and Mark Addison Associate Curator of Contemporary Art at the DAM. “Cave in his usual fashion breaks down barriers, preconceptions of beauty and takes us on a sensory journey of self-reflection and exploration.”

New works include a sculpture made of an adorned baptismal font and a monumental passageway constructed of thousands of buttons that serve as both the entrance to the exhibition and the beginning of the journey. Next visitors will experience about 10 large-scale, 3-D sculptural objects made out of found objects including a 16-foot tondo. Taking a new direction, Cave has removed the human figure from his sculptures and focused his work on abstract and animal forms. The next gallery space allows guests to explore more than 20 new *Soundsuits*. Finally, the exhibition will close with four new short films. The DAM is producing a substantial catalogue on the new work featured within this exhibition.

A collaborative live performance is also planned. Cave held an open call for the general public on February 22, as part of the museum's final Friday Untitled #54 (Turf) event. Cave asked interested participants to bring their rhythm and spirit to the audition for a chance to participate in a *Soundsuit* performance. Cave then chose 15 people to join in the performance on June 28, as part of the
final Friday Untitled #58 (Getup) event at the DAM. The performance will involve local dance groups, musicians and DJs.

“Nick Cave’s Soundsuits are mesmerizing hybrids of art, sculpture and dance,” explained Christoph Heinrich, Frederick and Jan Mayer Director of the DAM. “We’re excited to involve the general public and local dance and music groups for a large-scale performance at the DAM. Cave’s performances ignite conversations about issues like identity, community and creativity and the DAM is a perfect platform for such discussions.”

Cave grew up in a large family in Columbia, Mo., and credits his single mother for encouraging his creativity. The artist studied sculpture and fiber at the Kansas City Art Institute and also studied with the famed Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, known for its contemporary choreography. The artist obtained a master’s degree at Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan, and is a professor at the School of The Art Institute of Chicago teaching fashion and garment design in the graduate program. He is represented by Jack Shainman Gallery in New York.

Described as textiles-meet-modern dance, Cave’s colorful, larger-than-life sculptures have been displayed in museums and worn by Cave and other professional dancers as part of performances. The Soundsuits consist of a wide variety of materials and are designed to make noise as the wearer moves. Cave’s first Soundsuit happened in response to the 1992 Rodney King beating—he intended to create a sculpture using found twigs and once complete realized he could wear it. When he put it on, the rustling twigs created an audible kinetic dimension that resulted in the now-famed series of Soundsuit sculptures. The twig suit was the first of many Soundsuits crafted from non-traditional materials including fabric, human hair, buttons and feathers.

About Final Friday Untitled Events
On the final Friday of the month, from 6 to 10 p.m., the DAM offers a unique museum experience with unconventional art encounters, new insight into the DAM collection, art making activities, cash bar and more. At each mixed-media Untitled event, the museum highlights a specific theme with exhibition-related activities and community collaborations. That means visitors get special access to their favorite curators, educators and community experts. Visitors can curate their own night by choosing from a full menu of activities ranging from crafty projects and tours with a twist to theater performances.

Nick Cave: Sojourn is organized by the Denver Art Museum. This exhibition is made possible through the significant support of U.S. Bank, Vicki and Kent Logan and PB&K Family Foundation. Additional funding is provided by the generous donors to the Annual Fund Leadership Campaign and the citizens who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD). Promotional support is provided by 5280 Magazine, CBS4 and The Denver Post.

Media Resources
Online Newsroom: www.denverartmuseum.org/press
Exhibition Overview: http://www.denverartmuseum.org/article/staff-blogs/dance-your-way-soundsuit-nick-cave-open-call
Facebook: www.facebook.com/denverartmuseum
Twitter: www.twitter.com/denverartmuseum
Pinterest: http://pinterest.com/denverartmuseum/nick-cave

The Denver Art Museum is located on 13th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock Streets in downtown Denver. Open Tuesday–Thursday, Saturday–Sunday 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.–8 p.m., except the final Friday of the month January–October when the museum stays open until 10 p.m. for the Untitled event; closed Mondays, July 4, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Admission for Colorado residents: $10 adults, $8 seniors and students. Admission for non-Colorado residents: $13 for adults, $10 for seniors and students, $5 for visitors aged six to eighteen, free for children under 6. General Museum admission is free the first Saturday of each month, thanks to Target and the citizens who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD). Nick Cave: Sojourn requires a special ticket. The Cultural Complex Garage is open; enter from 12th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock or check the DAM website for up-to-date parking information. For information in Spanish, call 720-913-0169. For more information, call 720-865-5000 or visit www.denverartmuseum.org.