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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Announcing Festival of Fools 2011 in Downtown Burlington!

Burlington, VT: (July 12, 2011) Burlington City Arts is pleased to present the 4th annual *Festival of Fools*, a free, fun for all ages street festival taking place in downtown Burlington, kicking off Friday, August 5th at 2pm, with street performances and special events running through Sunday, August 8th at 6pm. Featuring dozens of entertainers from around the globe and Vermont, residents and visitors will experience world-class performances in Downtown Burlington on the Church Street Marketplace and in City Hall Park.

Festival of Fools brings the age-old tradition of busking to Burlington. Busking is the practice of performing in public places for tips and gratuities. Performers will be conducting their acts on various locations called pitches throughout the day on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. While the entertainment is free, festival goers should feel free to donate to the performer if they like what they see.

Viewers should expect to be delighted and dazzled by the many great acts performing in Burlington. Highlights include Mr. Spin, the charming eight ball juggler from Australia who is making a charismatic return to Burlington! Also, Brazilian performance artist Michel Groisman, whose specialty is audience participation, has developed several mesmerizing games and performances that guarantee a unique experience for all. Vermont favorite Waldo and Woodhead will combine music, comedy, theater, and juggling to bring a character driven show that will make the audience chuckle. In addition, Burlington City Arts

in conjunction with Circus Minimus, is hosting a two-week kid's circus camp, featuring instruction by master circus artist WT McRae that will culminate with performances during the Festival. To find out about all the different performers and events, visit www.burlingtoncityarts.org/Festival_of_Fools/ for full festival details!

New for this year is a special event called 30 Hours of Art, which celebrates Burlington City Arts' 30th Anniversary in 2011 with special exhibitions, interactive art making, and dazzling public art displays. Highlights of 30 Hours of Art include a 30-hour long collaborative, live, art installation on the City Hall Park side of the BCA Center. A group of Vermont-based artists, lead by Abby Manock, will create a massive public artwork on the park-side façade of The BCA Center, which will be broadcast live at Burlingtoncityarts.org, courtesy of Cortex Marketing. This is a literal 30-hour project, which will begin Friday, August 5th at 3pm, and end Saturday, August 6th at 9pm.

Also part of 30 Hours of Art is a "pop-up" style exhibition called Church Of Circus, installed temporarily in the former Outdoor Gear Exchange storefront at 152 Cherry Street. In a dizzying installation of sculpture, painting, photography and performance art, 10 Vermont-based artists including Art Bell, Kat Clear, Clark Derbes, Andy Duback, Nancy Dwyer, Wylie Garcia, Elliott Katz, Abby Manock, Mr. Masterpiece and Tony- Lee Sangastiano put their own spin on the tradition of collaboration and audience participation.

Festival of Fools is sponsored by Merchant's Bank, Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, Ben & Jerry's, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Vermont, Cortex Marketing, Eyes of the World, Jet Blue Airways and The Church Street Marketplace, with media sponsorship by Independent Radio The Point, WCAX TV, and Free Press Media. This event is an important part of Burlington City Arts, which is dedicated to the promotion of excellence, experimentation, and education in all forms of contemporary art. For more information about gallery exhibitions, special events, classes and workshops, please call 802.865.7166 or visit BURLINGTONCITYARTS.COM.

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