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Three Floors of International Contemporary Artists at the BCA Center

Burlington, VT: (August 17, 2011) Opening Friday, August 26th at the BCA Center on Church Street in Burlington, Burlington City Arts is proud to present one of the most high-profile contemporary art exhibitions organized in Vermont: *Outdoor Excursions*, guest curated by *Art In America* writer Gregory Volk. Featuring work by thirteen national and international artists and taking place on the first, second and fourth floors of the BCA Center, *Outdoor Excursions* opens with a reception on Friday, August 26th from 5-8pm, and Artist Talk at 6pm, and runs through December 3rd, 2011.

Curated by *Art in America* writer **Gregory Volk**, *Outdoor Excursions* features work by thirteen acclaimed artists on three floors of the BCA Center. Celebrating Vermonters' love of nature and outdoor-oriented culture, Volk uses artworks to transform the galleries into his version of a wilderness adventure company, with artworks offering "excursions" to the Swiss Alps, Icelandic volcanoes, the deep forest, suburban backyards, outer space, and Vermont ski areas, among other destinations. "We are extremely fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Gregory Volk who has brought such amazing international talent right here to Vermont. This show rivals anything you might see in contemporary art in major cities like New York and Los Angeles," says BCA Center Chief Curator **Chris Thompson**.

Artists include: **Fred Tomaselli**, whose spectacular, highly mediated nature scenes combine paint and diverse collaged materials; renowned Swiss artist **Roman Signer**, whose temporary sculptures, or sculptures-as-events, are presented as video documentation; **Ragna Róbertsdóttir**, who will be creating a site-specific installation made of thousands of lava chips gathered from volcanoes in her native Iceland; Dutch

artist **Sebastiaan Bremer**, known for drawing directly on photographs; German painter and video artist **Ati Maier**; and recent MacArthur “Genius Award” grant recipient **Teresita Fernandez**. Also participating are Berlin-based American expatriate **Laura Bruce**, who is most known for virtuoso large drawings of nature scenes; **Roxy Paine**, who presents *Neuron 2*, a model for a sizable outdoor sculpture, that suggests both a neuron and a branching tree; the Brazilian choreography duo **chameckilerner (Rosane Chamecki and Andrea Lerner)**, with their video “Flying Lesson”, made in conjunction with filmmaker **Phil Harder**, in which the two artists appear to be miraculously and ecstatically flying outdoors; **Diana Al-Hadid**, most known for her spectacular, idea-filled mixed media sculptures, who will exhibit an enthralling partly abstract, partly forest-like drawing and **Jon McCafferty**, whose multilayered and tumultuous paintings of abstracted mountains are based on topographical maps of ski areas in Vermont. Several of the artists will be present the week prior to the opening, to create their work on-site, and discuss their creative process.

Curator **Gregory Volk** is a New York-based art critic and freelance curator. He is a regular contributor to *Art in America*, and his writing has also appeared in numerous other publications, including *Parkett* and *Sculpture*. Together with Sabine Russ, Gregory Volk has curated numerous exhibitions, including “Agitation and Repose” at Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; “Public Notice: Paintings in Laumeier Sculpture Park,” St. Louis, Missouri; and “Surface Charge” at Anderson Gallery, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia. Gregory Volk received his BA from Colgate University, Hamilton, New York and his MA from Columbia University, New York. Volk is an Associate Professor at the School of the Arts, Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA.

Outdoor Excursions is sponsored by the UVM Office of the Vice President for Research and Project Graphics. This exhibition is an important part of Burlington City Arts, celebrating 30 years of supporting the arts, 1981-2011, 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.ORG.

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