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Media only: Laurie Olivieri (212) 849-8420
CooperHewittPress@si.edu

Sarah Thompson (212) 671-5175
Resnicow Schroeder Associates
sthompson@resnicowschroeder.com

Public only: (212) 849-8400

Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum Announces Jury for Seventh Annual National Design Awards

Paul Warwick Thompson, director of the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, announced the jury selected to judge the seventh annual National Design Awards, which will be held on Oct. 18. The annual National Design Awards honor the year's most outstanding contributions from the design world. In conjunction with this year's Awards, Cooper-Hewitt is organizing its first National Design Week, a week-long exploration and celebration of achievements in design, encompassing public programming as well as the National Design Awards. First Lady Laura Bush is the Honorary Patron for this year's National Design Awards.

"Now in its seventh year, the National Design Awards continue to advance Cooper-Hewitt's mission to broaden public understanding of the role of design in our lives," Thompson said. "We're delighted that the Awards will be guided by the insight and experience of these accomplished jurors, who bring diverse expertise to this process."

First launched at the White House in 2000 as an official project of the White House Millennium Council, the annual Awards program celebrates design in various disciplines as a vital humanistic tool in shaping the world and seeks to increase national awareness of design by educating the public and promoting excellence, innovation and lasting achievement. Every year, the museum invites national leaders in architecture, design, education, journalism, criticism and other areas to nominate designers whose work in the past year has best achieved excellence, innovation and

enhancement of the quality of life. A jury of experts in various design fields, selected by the museum, reviews the nominations and selects winners in nine different categories.

The 2006 National Design Award finalists will be announced in May and the Award recipients in June. This year's awards will be celebrated in a ceremony in October at Cooper-Hewitt's landmark mansion in New York.

This year's seven jury members, each a leader in his or her respective field, bring diversity and expertise to the National Design Awards and to the vast arena of design:

Cindy Allen is editor-in-chief of Interior Design magazine. Since she became editor-in-chief in 2001, the magazine has won numerous design awards and significantly expanded its readership. Allen has hosted and spoken on panels around the country and has been invited to speak at key design events nationwide.

Yves Béhar is the founder of the San Francisco-based design firm fuseproject. The firm's diverse portfolio includes projects for clients in technology, sports, lifestyle and fashion, among them Birkenstock, Herman Miller, Hewlett-Packard, Nike, Microsoft, Swarovski and Toshiba. Béhar's work has been featured in solo shows at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Musée de design et d'arts appliqués contemporains in Lausanne, Switzerland. His numerous design awards include recognition from IDEA/BusinessWeek, Red Dot and I.D. Magazine. In 2004 Béhar was awarded with the National Design Award for Product Design.

Michael Bierut is a partner at New York graphic design firm Pentagram, where his clients have included the New York Times, the Minnesota Children's Museum, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Harley-Davidson, Princeton University, the Museum of Sex and the New York Jets. He has served as president of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Graphic Arts and is a board member of the Architectural League of New York and New Yorkers for Parks. Bierut is a senior critic in the graphic design program at the Yale School of Art in Connecticut, and he is the co-editor of the "Looking Closer: Critical Writings on Graphic Design" book series, published by Allworth Press.

Roger Mandle is president of the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, R.I. He serves on the boards of the Alliance of Artists' Communities, National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design, Newport Restoration Foundation, and other national and regional professional organizations. Mandle received his doctorate from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and his master's degree and museum training certificate from New York University. He is a published art historian on the subjects of Dutch, British and American art.

Enrique Norton is the principal at the New York- and Mexico-based architecture firm TEN Arquitectos, which he founded in 1986. His numerous awards and honors include the Mies van der Rohe award, the National Creator System Grant, a Gold Medal from the Society of American Registered Architects, the Certificate of Merit from the Municipal Art Society of New York and the World Cultural Council's Leonardo da Vinci World Award of Arts. Norton holds the Miller Chair at the University of Pennsylvania and is Eero Saarinen Visiting Professor of Architectural Design at Yale School of Architecture in Connecticut.

Janet Rosenberg is principal and founder of award-winning Canadian landscape architecture firm Janet Rosenberg + Associates. The firm's numerous projects have included the Canadian National Capital Commission and the Métis International Garden Festival, among many others, and their work has won several international design competitions, including HtO: Toronto's New Waterfront Park. Well published, Rosenberg also serves on numerous juries, conferences, associations, and design panels, and speaks at universities across Canada. She is a founding board member of the Toronto Tree Foundation and a member of Toronto Mayor's Roundtable on a Beautiful City and the Van Alen Institute's Canadian Consulate Forum on Waterfronts. Rosenberg's firm has received over 100 awards for their work and she been honored with many awards including the prestigious Governor General of Canada's Confederation Medal.

Stefano Tonchi is style editor for The New York Times Magazine, where he created the "T" family of magazines, which include special issues dedicated to women's and men's fashion, design, living, beauty, travel and holiday. Tonchi has curated a number of exhibitions devoted to style, and has edited several books on the intersection of art and fashion, including "Total Living," "Uniform: Order and Disorder" and "Excess: Fashion and the Underground in the 80's." He graduated with a classic studies degree from Liceo Classico Forteguerri in Pistoia, Italy, and studied political science at the University of Florence, Italy, from 1979 to 1984.

Nominations for the following Awards will be reviewed by the jury:

The **Lifetime Achievement Award** will recognize the work of a distinguished individual who has made a profound and long-term contribution to the contemporary practice of design.

The **Corporate Achievement Award** will be bestowed on a corporation, organization or institution that uses design as a strategic tool of its mission and exhibits ingenuity and insight in helping to advance the relationship between design and quality of life in the United States.

The **Design Mind Award** will recognize a visionary individual who has affected a paradigm shift in design thinking or practice through writing, research and scholarship.

Six Design Achievement Awards will be given to individuals or firms for exceptional and exemplary work in six areas: **Architecture** (commercial, public or residential architectural design); **Communications Design** (graphic design, multimedia design); **Landscape Design** (urban planning, parks and gardens); **Interior Design** (domestic, corporate, cultural and commercial interiors); **Product Design** (consumer goods, technology, home and office furnishings); and **Fashion Design** (clothing, footwear and accessories).

In addition, the **Design Patron Award** will recognize an individual's outstanding patronage of design within the business and civic sectors. The recipient of this award is chosen by the museum's director each year.

A suite of educational programs is offered every year in conjunction with the awards. Organized by Cooper-Hewitt's education department, the series of public programs includes lectures, roundtable discussions, and workshops based on the vision and work of the National Design Award

winners. Information on these programs will be posted on the National Design Awards Web site at www.nationaldesignawards.org as soon as it is available. The National Design Awards are made possible by Target.

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