



For immediate release

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(NOTE: The exhibition title is *LightShowers*, one word, upper case L and S, with *Light* in italics.)

Light, water to delight and relax visitors to DCCA ***“LightShowers” mixed-media installation to open Sept. 21***

WILMINGTON, Del. — Visitors to the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts will be able to explore the physical and temporal dimensions of both light and water in a single mixed-media installation, *LightShowers*, opening Sept. 21.

LightShowers, designed by architects Yoshiko Sato and Michael Morris of the Morris Sato Studio in New York City, is a traveling installation created specifically for the DCCA. Morris and Sato are creating a platform with seating for seven visitors that will be placed in the center of the museum’s DuPont I gallery. From their seats, visitors will experience video projections of water on to the horizontal platform/floor and activate a matrix of light-emitting diodes (LEDs) pulsing around them in an interval matching a human being’s breath while resting.

Morris and Sato, with collaboration by Paul Ryan on the installation’s video images, believe they have created an exhibition that is both exhilarating and relaxing. “Our use of light and water is intended to be both refreshing and renewing, magical and wondrous,” Morris says. “For us, viewing, or sitting, is not a passive condition, but a spatial state of repose, calming the human pulse, allowing the mind to empty, an aspiration to conjure nothing.”

“This site-specific environment promises to be an interesting experiment in biofeedback and mood modification,” says DCCA curator J. Susan Isaacs, who arranged the exhibition.

LightShowers will be on exhibition at the DCCA through January 7, 2007. The exhibition runs concurrently with *The Modern Seat: Selections from the Rymer Stakgold Museum*, which will feature 25 chairs designed from the 1930s through the 1990s and assembled in a collection by Wilmington residents Jeanne S. Rymer, a retired professor of interior design at the University of



Delaware, and Ivar Stakgold. “It’s nice to be able to reinforce a theme through concurrent exhibitions like these,” Isaacs says.

LightShowers is supported in part by the DuPont Co. Corian® Solid Surfaces and Mitchell Associates, with additional support from Wilmington architect Joe Carbonell and Lynn and Rodney Sharp.

Yoshiko Sato and Michael Morris have been partners in the multidisciplinary architecture practice Morris Sato Studio in New York City since 1996. Widely recognized for their architecture, design, and public art collaborations, they have built and exhibited projects in North America, Europe, and Japan. Sato teaches at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Morris at Parsons School of Design. For further information about the architects, visit www.morrissato.com

Paul Ryan’s video art work has been presented in Japan, Turkey, France, Germany, Holland, Spain, and Ecuador and in museums throughout the United States, including The Museum of Modern Art and The Whitney Museum of American Art. Ryan is core faculty in Graduate Media Studies at The New School in New York City.

The DCCA, a non-collecting art museum founded in 1979, presents more than 30 exhibitions annually of regionally, nationally and internationally recognized artists that explore topical issues in contemporary art and society, as well as symposia, lectures and tours. The DCCA provides individual studios to more than 25 artists, who also exhibit regularly within its galleries and throughout the region. The DCCA has a variety of educational and outreach programs, including one that integrates contemporary arts into the public school curriculum, and artists’ residencies that feature collaboration with underserved community groups. The center is housed in a renovated industrial building at 200 South Madison St. in the heart of the rejuvenated Wilmington Riverfront.

DCCA gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Wednesday and Sunday. Admission is \$5 adults, \$3 for students and senior citizens (age 65 and up), with children under 12 admitted free. Admission is pay as you like on Wednesday and free until 1 p.m. Saturday. The DCCA is wheelchair-accessible; visitors with special needs are urged to call in advance. DCCA exhibitions and programs are made possible, in part, through private contributions, members’ support, and major grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Delaware Division of the Arts.