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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS ANNOUNCES
GRANTS TO ARTISTS FOR 2012**

New York, NY, January 2012 – Foundation for Contemporary Arts (FCA) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2012 *Grants to Artists* program. Fourteen unrestricted grants of \$25,000 each, a total of \$350,000, are to be awarded to artists in the United States and abroad.

Nominated confidentially by prominent artists and arts professionals and selected by the Directors of the Foundation and noted members of the arts community, the 2012 recipients are:

DANCE

Beth Gill, Ridgewood, NY
Ralph Lemon, New York, NY
Jen Rosenblit, Brooklyn, NY

MUSIC/SOUND

Jace Clayton, Brooklyn, NY
Rhodri Davies, Gateshead, UK

PERFORMANCE ART/THEATER

Ei Arakawa, Brooklyn, NY
Justin Vivian Bond, New York, NY
Thomas Bradshaw, Evanston, IL
Grace Schwindt, London, UK

POETRY

Jack Collom, Boulder, CO
Tan Lin, New York, NY

VISUAL ARTS

Daniel Bozhkov, New York, NY
William E. Jones, Los Angeles, CA
Kate Millett, New York, NY

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Grants to Artists was established in 1993 as a program to provide significant, unrestricted assistance to individual artists. The \$25,000 awards are chosen annually through a confidential nomination and selection process. A group of distinguished artists and arts professionals are invited to serve as nominators. Nominators may propose one exceptional individual, artists' collective or performing group whom they believe deserve and would benefit from such a grant. A selection panel chooses grantees on the basis of the merit and imaginativeness of their work and the effect such recognition and support might have at this point in their careers.

The unrestricted cash awards are intended to provide recipients with the financial means to engage in whatever artistic endeavors they wish to pursue, to research and develop ideas, embark on projects and complete projects already underway. *Grants to Artists* often serve as a catalyst that propels an artist into a new phase in their career. Because the awards are nominated and selected by respected members of the arts community, artists are also given a valuable boost of confidence.

"Foundation for Contemporary Arts is pleased to be able to continue its commitment to individual artists in 2012," said Stacy Stark, Executive Director. "This kind of acknowledgement and support gives artists unfettered time to experiment with new ideas and continue their work."

FCA will publish a booklet profiling the 2012 grantees in March. Their curriculum vitae and other information will be available on FCA's website at the same time.

Foundation for Contemporary Arts is the only organization of its kind created by artists to benefit artists; artists have always directed its activities, selected its grantees and contributed work to support its programs. FCA's mission is to encourage, sponsor and promote innovative work in the arts created and presented by individuals, groups and organizations. Artists working in dance, music/sound, performance art/theater, poetry and the visual arts are awarded nonrestrictive grants to use at their own discretion; arts organizations receive project or general operating support by application and a fund is maintained to help artists with work-related emergencies. Since FCA's inception in 1963, nearly 900 artists have donated work to raise funds for these grants.

The current Directors of the Foundation are: Brooke Alexander, Frances Fergusson, Agnes Gund, Jasper Johns, Julian Lethbridge, Glenn Ligon, Kara Walker and T.J. Wilcox. Members of the Board were joined in this year's grant selection process by composer Annie Gosfield, artist and White Columns Director/Curator Matthew Higgs; former Executive Director/Curator of The Kitchen Debra Singer; and performer and founding member of The Wooster Group Kate Valk. Advisors to the selection committee for the Poetry category were poets Jorie Graham and Patricia Spears Jones.

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