



April 20, 2009

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ATTN: ARTS, BUSINESS AND NEWS JOURNALISTS**

**“The Junction Business Improvement Area (BIA) is proud to be presenting more photographers in the 2009 CONTACT Photography festival than before.”**

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival—the largest photography event in the world—**throughout May** more than 1,000 Canadian and international image artists and photographers are showcased at more than 210 venues. The Junction, one of Toronto’s major arts communities, has more venues in six short blocks than anywhere in Toronto (25 venues and 38 photographers).

On **Saturday, May 2, 2009**, from **6 p.m. to 9 p.m.**, all 25 venues will be holding opening night receptions. The entire Junction will be like one large gallery with viewers bustling up and down the streets between venues. Augmenting this exciting festival, the Junction BIA is honoured to present a free outdoor screening on **May 2 at 9 p.m.** of Jennifer Baichwal’s 2006 documentary **“Edward Burtynsky: Manufactured Landscapes”**. This visually stunning film follows the world renowned Toronto photographer showing his spectacular photographic depictions of global industrial landscapes, specifically China’s massive industrial revolution. Burtynsky’s photographs are treasured in museums around the world: National Gallery of Canada, the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, the Museum of Modern Art and Guggenheim Museum in New York. This internationally published photographer currently sits on the Board of CONTACT.

2009 marks the 8th year that the Junction BIA has participated in the festival. CONTACT draws more than 1.5 million people across Toronto to its events and exhibits.

“We have an eclectic collection of photographers this year representing the theme **Still Revolution**, justly depicting the transformation of the photographic process and subject matter over the years” says Anna-Louise Richardson, JBIA executive director. “This is our biggest festival to date and we expect a large turn out from the neighbourhood and beyond to come and take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity to view these artists.”

Among the many displays this year, attendees can look forward to the SMASH gallery exhibit featuring renowned Brooklyn, New York street culture photographer and author **Jamel Shabazz** and the work of abstract and fine art photographer **Marilyn Lightstone** at Latitude 44 Gallery, Framing, Decor.

All venues are located around Keele Street and Dundas Street West, from Indian Grove to Quebec Avenue. Please see attached map.

For **media inquiries** and more information about CONTACT exhibits in the Junction please phone or email:

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