The Seventh Project in deCordova’s PLATFORM Series Opens July 23, 2011
PLATFORM 7: Tory Fair, Testing a World View (Again)

Lincoln, MA, July 20, 2011 — DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum announces the installation of Tory Fair’s Testing a World View (Again), the seventh project in the PLATFORM series, on view July 23, 2011 through Spring 2012. Boston-based sculptor Tory Fair creates objects and installations that address the transitional space between the real and imagined, what is physical and what is felt. In her most recent work she focuses her explorations on the relationship between the body and nature through cast, figurative sculpture. As part of deCordova’s ongoing PLATFORM series, in which emerging and mid-career artists are invited to create work specifically for the site, Fair’s installation highlights deCordova as a venue for indoor and outdoor contemporary art.

As Fair notes, “our imagination [is] part of our resources and part of our nature. My sculptures intend to endorse the perception that nature is the imagination; that nature is ourselves; and that nature is our surroundings—however urban, deserted, bucolic, or wild they may be.”

Testing a World View (Again) is a site-inspired installation on the Pollack Family Terrace, a small balcony off of the Museum’s third floor galleries. Fair casts her body in a seated, contemplative pose in pink resin. This cast gesture creates a simple, 90-degree angle. Flowers swarm her head as materialized thoughts which are alive as they press and impress a relationship to the world. Four of these resin figures will be sited on the terrace in unexpected positions to suggest both humor and humility in the experience of the body in contact with its variable surroundings.

Testing a World View (Again) also directly references the work of British sculptor Antony Gormley, whose work Reflection II, 2008 greets deCordova’s visitors at the Museum’s entrance. In 1993 he presented Testing a World View, an installation of five identical cast iron figures of his own body at right angles posed throughout a museum gallery, articulating the different relationships between the human figure and architectural -more-
Fair reinterprets Gormley's seminal work in an outdoor gallery space with her own figure, in pink resin, and covered with flowers. Her feminist re-articulation of an earlier and perhaps more masculine work expands the question of our bodies’ strained relationship to the world to now encompass the gendered body and both the built and natural worlds.

The 2010-2011 PLATFORM series is generously funded by James and Audrey Foster. *Testing a World View (Again)* is also supported by the Theodore and Jane Norman Fund for Faculty Research and Creative Projects at Brandeis University.

**About the Artist**

Tory Fair (b. 1968, Washington, DC) lives and works in Boston, MA. She received her BA from Harvard University, Cambridge, MA and MFA from Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA. Her work has been shown at the Mills Gallery, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA; LaMontagne Gallery, Boston, MA; Artspace, New Haven, CT; Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA; and Socrates Sculpture Park, Long Island City, NY, among others. She is the Assistant Professor of Sculpture at Brandeis University, Waltham, MA.

**About the PLATFORM Series**

PLATFORM is a series of solo exhibitions by early- and mid-career artists from both the New England and national arts communities. These shows focus on work that engages with deCordova's unique architectural spaces and social, geographical, and physical location. The PLATFORM series is intended as a support for creativity and expression of new ideas, and as a catalyst for dialogue about contemporary art. The exhibition is accompanied by a full-color brochure and organized by Dina Deitsch, Associate Curator of Contemporary Art.

**Educational Programming**

All programs are free with Museum admission

**PLATFORM Discussion Series**

*Tory Fair and Robb Moss*

**Saturday, August 6, 2 pm**

Join exhibiting artist Tory Fair as she engages in a discussion with documentary filmmaker Robb Moss, Rudolf Arnheim Lecturer on Filmmaking in the Department of
Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard University. The conversation will investigate how Fair’s *Testing a World View (Again)*, and Moss’s documentary films, such as *Secrecy* and *The Same River Twice*, explore body and nature with their respective points of view, and their creative process in making these themes evident to the viewer.

**About deCordova**

Established in 1950, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum is the largest park of its kind in New England encompassing 35 acres, 20 miles northwest of Boston. In 2009, deCordova changed its name from deCordova Museum and Sculpture Park to deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum to emphasize its renewed focus on sculpture and to support the institution’s goal of becoming the leading Sculpture Park in the United States by 2020. Providing a constantly changing landscape of large-scale, outdoor, modern and contemporary sculpture and site-specific installations, the Sculpture Park hosts a range of unique and site-specific artworks, the majority of which are on loan to the Museum. Inside, the Museum features a robust slate of rotating exhibitions and innovative interpretive programming.

In 2009 deCordova acquired its first work by an international sculptor and continues to bolster the curatorial program by exhibiting high-quality, accessible art of nationally and internationally recognized artists indoors and out. Currently, visitors can view work by Antony Gormley, Roy Lichtenstein, Sol LeWitt, Chakaia Booker, and Rona Pondick along with 60 other well-known artists. To maintain its commitment to New England artists and emphasize the quality and vitality of the art created in this region, deCordova launched the *deCordova Biennial* in 2010 and the PLATFORM series in 2009.

Patrons of deCordova can enjoy year-round activities in the Sculpture Park and Museum, including snowshoe tours, yoga in the park, birding tours, curator and artist conversations, and many special talks, screenings, and events. DeCordova’s School offers classes and workshops throughout the year and is one of the largest non-degree granting studio art programs in New England. Unique to deCordova, the Corporate Program provides area businesses the opportunity to support the institution and regional artists through membership initiatives and Art Loan options. DeCordova is also home to the only preschool embedded in a contemporary art museum in the United States.

**General Information**

DeCordova is open Tuesday through Sunday, from 10 am to 5 pm and on select Monday holidays. General admission during Museum hours is $12 for adults; $8 for senior citizens, students, and youth ages 6–12. Children ages 5 and under, Lincoln residents, and
Active Duty Military Personnel and their dependents are admitted free. The Sculpture Park is open year-round during daylight hours. Guided public tours of the Museum’s main galleries take place every Thursday at 1 pm and Sunday at 2 pm. Tours of the Sculpture Park are given on Saturday and Sunday at 1 pm from April to November. All guided tours are free with Campus admission. Visit decordova.org or call 781.259.8355 or further information.