

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Miami Dade College's Museum of Art + Design and CINTAS Foundation Announce 2014 - 2015 Winners**

**Miami, Oct. 13, 2014** – Miami Dade College's (MDC) **Museum of Art + Design (MOAD)**, home of the CINTAS Fellows Collection, and the **CINTAS Foundation** announced this year's fellows for the annual CINTAS Foundation Fellowship competition at a special reception held at the college's iconic Freedom Tower. The competition awards a fellowship for each winner in three categories: visual arts, music composition and creative writing.

*"Since 1963 the CINTAS Foundation has supported Cuban arts outside Cuba. Over 300 CINTAS Fellows have contributed nationally and internationally to the humanities." Hortensia Sampedro, President of CINTAS Foundation. "These CINTAS Fellows are found represented in all major museums, and important private and corporate collections, as well as recipients of Pulitzer, Guggenheim, NEA, Obie Awards, exhibited at the Venice Biennale, Rockefeller and Fulbright Residencies, Latin Grammy nominations And many, many more too numerous to list".*

The Museum will be showcasing the visual arts finalists' works **through Nov. 9**. The exhibition is free and open to the public, during museum hours.

### **This year's winners are:**

#### **2014 – 2015 CINTAS Foundation Knight Foundation Award in Visual Arts: Coco Fusco**

Coco Fusco is an interdisciplinary artist and writer and MIT's MLK Visiting Scholar for 2014-2015. She is a recipient of a 2013 Guggenheim Fellowship, a 2013 Fulbright Fellowship, a 2012 US Artists Fellowship and a 2003 Herb Alpert Award in the Arts. Fusco's performances and videos have been presented in two Whitney Biennials (2008 and 1993), the Sydney Biennale, The Johannesburg Biennial, The Kwangju Biennale, The Shanghai Biennale, and Performa05. Her works have also been shown at the Tate Liverpool, The Museum of Modern Art, The Walker Art Center and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Barcelona.

Fusco's work combines electronic media and performance in a variety of formats, from staged multi-media performances incorporating large scale projections and closed circuit television to live performances streamed to the internet that invite audiences to chart the course of action through chat interaction. Her most recent performance, Observations of Predation in Humans: A Lecture by Dr. Zira, Animal Psychologist, revives the character from Planet of the Apes to offer a commentary on contemporary forms of aggression that is supplemented by multimedia illustration.

Fusco received her B.A. in Semiotics from Brown University (1982), her M.A. in Modern Thought and Literature from Stanford University (1985) and her Ph.D. in Art and Visual Culture from Middlesex University (2007).

Past visual arts fellows include Carmen Herrera, Guillermo Calzadilla, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Carlos Alfonzo, Teresita Fernandez, Anthony Goicolea, Jillian Mayer, Ernesto Oroza, photographers Andres Serrano and Maria Martinez-Canas, sculptor Maria Elena Gonzalez.

#### **2014 - 2015 CINTAS Foundation Brandon Fradd Award in Music Composition: Yalil Guerra**

Yalil Guerre was born in Havana, Cuba, April 27th, 1973 and is the son of the famous Cuban vocal duo Rosell y Cary. His first musical studies were at the Escuela Nacional de Artes (ENA) in Havana, Cuba (1985-1991) with classical guitar professor and concert master Jorge Luis Zamora. At the age of 16, Guerra won the International Competition & Festival of Classical Guitar in Krakow, Poland, as well as the Special Prize (1990). Making a tour the following year for different Poland cities. He thus became the youngest Cuban awarded a prize in an international competition. He graduated as a Classical Guitar performer and Professor in 1991.

He started his career as a producer, composer and arranger in 1990 and has worked with many industry companies and professionals. Artists such as Cristian Castro, Celia Cruz, Albita Rodríguez, Eddie Santiago, Rey Ruiz, Choco Orta and Yamila Guerra among others. Nowadays Guerra writes music for US TV networks such as Univision, Tele Futura; the music of shows such as: FIFA World Cup music theme 2010, "Viva el Sueño" (2009), the Latin Grammy awards (2005 through 2011), "Premio lo Nuestro" (2006 through 2011), Up front (2005 and 2006), "Escándalo TV", "Tributo a Nuestra Música", "Premios Juventud", "Sábado Gigante", "Mira Quien Baila", etc. are among his credits. He was a nominee for the XIII Latin Grammy Awards in the Best Classical Contemporary Composition for his work "Seducción", performed by pianist Elizabeth Rebozo, included in the album "Live in L.A.", produced by Guerra for RYCY Productions, Inc. Currently, Guerra continues to compose and produce albums at his recording facility in Burbank, California.

Past music fellows include Fabian Almazan, Sergio Barroso, Armando Bayolo, Mario Bauza (known as the father of Afro-Cuban jazz), José Bernardo, Ailem Carvajal, Aldo Rafael Forte, Orlando Jacinto Garcia Julián Orbon, and Tania León.

#### **2014 - 2015 CINTAS Foundation Award in Creative Writing: Carmen Maria Machado**

Carmen Maria Machado is a fiction writer, critic, and essayist whose work has appeared or is forthcoming in The New Yorker, The Paris Review, Granta, AGNI, NPR, Los Angeles Review of Books, VICE, and elsewhere. She was a recipient of the Richard Yates Short Story Prize in 2011 and a Millay Colony for the Arts residency in 2014, and has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize, Michener-Copernicus Fellowship, American Short Fiction Contest among others. She is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where she was a Dean's Graduate Fellow, and the Clarion Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers' Workshop. She lives in Philadelphia with her partner.

Past architecture fellows include Luis Calzadilla, Jose Bernardo, Andres Martin Duany, and Tomas Luis Lopez-Gottardi.

#### **About the CINTAS Fellowship Program**

The CINTAS Fellowship Program encourages creative development in architecture, literature, music composition and the visual arts. The Foundation was established with funds from the estate of Oscar B. CINTAS (1887-1957), the former Cuban ambassador to the United States, a prominent industrialist and patron of the arts. In June of 2011, the CINTAS Foundation entered into an extended loan to MDC's Museum of Art + Design of the CINTAS Fellows Collection, comprised of nearly 300 pieces by artists of Cuban descent living outside Cuba who have received prestigious CINTAS Fellowships, awarded since 1963. [www.cintasfoundation.org](http://www.cintasfoundation.org)

#### **About MDC's Museum of Art + Design**

MDC Museum of Art + Design is Miami Dade College's flagship institution dedicated to the presentation and exhibition of visual art and design, located within the historic MDC Freedom Tower in downtown Miami. With more than 13,000 square feet of exhibition space, the Museum of Art + Design presents year-round exhibitions and educational programs, and is known for its presentation of exhibitions by emerging artists, designers, as well as major figures in modern, post-modern and contemporary art. With a mission to promote the appreciation and understanding of art and its role in society through direct engagement, original works of art, design, and related creative processes; the Museum provides residents and visitors access to unique cultural, historical, and educational exhibitions that enrich our community, while building and preserving its expansive permanent art collection. Available to the public five days a week, and as an admission FREE institution with a diversity of patrons and visitors, the MDC

Museum of Art + Design is one of the largest and most accessible institutions in the South Florida area devoted to visual arts and design.

**For more information about the CINTAS program at MDC, please contact** Jessica Brodsky at 305-237-7722, or [jbrodsky@mdc.edu](mailto:jbrodsky@mdc.edu).

**For more information about the exhibition, please call** MDC's Museum of Art + Design at 305-237-7700 or visit [www.mdcmod.org](http://www.mdcmod.org)

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