



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACTS: Arianna Sikorski, USC  
213-740-1899  
Melissa Abraham, Getty  
310-440-6861

## USC Annenberg/Getty Arts Journalism Fellowship awarded to leading arts journalists

LOS ANGELES, August 11, 2009 -- Six distinguished mid-career arts journalists have been selected as Fellows for the **USC Annenberg/Getty Arts Journalism Program**.

This year the Fellowship will focus on the visual arts and architecture of Los Angeles, with attention paid to the challenges confronting journalists working in the digital-media era. How does today's arts journalist, especially during a worldwide economic downturn, become the focus for conversation and persuasion? The 2009 Fellowship will be about enabling arts journalists to take a bold lead and tell stories that meaningfully connect audiences and artists.

With support from the Getty Foundation, the program, now in its eighth year, seeks to establish a new standard of excellence in arts and culture coverage. The Fellowship's philosophy is guided by a core belief in the importance of first-hand encounters with both artists and journalism colleagues. The three-week program begins November 1, 2009.

The Fellows for 2009 are:

- **JOSHUA SAMUEL BROWN**, writer and photo-journalist. Based primarily in Asia for the past 15 years, Brown has contributed visual and performing arts stories to the *South China Morning Post*, *Hong Kong Standard*, *Sculptural Pursuit* and many other publications. He has co-authored four recent Lonely Planet titles including *Taiwan*, *Singapore* and *Belize*, and is the author of "Vignettes of Taiwan," published by San Francisco-based Things Asian Press.
- **BARBARA CELIS**, reporter, blogger and filmmaker. For the last five years New York-based Celis has regularly covered American arts, culture and politics for Spain's *El Pais*. She is a frequent contributor to *ARS*, *Ioncinema*, *La Repubblica*, the Spanish editions of *Vogue*, *Rolling Stone* and *Cinemanía*. She has a bilingual blog, [www.cronicasbarbaras.com](http://www.cronicasbarbaras.com) and is finishing her first documentary, *Surviving Amina*.
- **KELLY KLAASMEYER**, editor and critic. Editor of *Glasstire*, an online magazine devoted to the visual arts of Texas, Klaasmeyer also writes about art for *Houston Press*. In 2004, she was awarded the Lone Star Award for first place in Arts and Entertainment Criticism. A working artist, she holds an MFA in Painting and a BFA in Painting and Drawing.

- more -

- **NEDA ULABY**, writer and editor, radio and print. National Public Radio arts reporter Ulaby specializes in film, books, intellectual property issues, and cultural trends. She also hosts NPR's weekly arts podcast. As former managing editor of Chicago's *Windy City Times*, a gay and lesbian weekly newspaper, she oversaw staff and freelancers as well as contributed news, features and film reviews.
- **RANDALL ROBERTS**, editor and critic. At the *LA Weekly*, music editor Roberts oversees the multimedia music content of laweekly.com and the music blog *West Coast Sound*. Roberts has also written for the *Village Voice*, Salon, Stylus.com, *Seattle Weekly* and other publications. His work has been honored by the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies, the National Association of Black Journalists and Association of Food Journalists.
- **MATTHEW WESTWOOD**, writer and editor. As arts editor of the national daily newspaper *The Australian*, Westwood is responsible for coverage of the nation's fine, popular, and indigenous arts. He writes mainly about classical music and opera, and the performing arts generally. He is a former editor of *24 Hours*, a classical music magazine, and features editor on the startup team of London's *Metro* in 1999.

"These Fellows are more interested in what the art they are covering makes *us* think than they are in telling us what they think about the art," said Sasha Anawalt, founder and director of the USC Annenberg/Getty Arts Journalism program. "Their knowledge, imaginations, and the high level at which they practice journalism -- half of them internationally -- help them foster direct and sometimes intimate conversations between their subjects and those who depend on the media for arts information. They will challenge the program further to push toward the edges where text, image and voice meet on the Web."

This year, a new position of Deputy Director has been created for Jeff Weinstein. An editor and critic, Weinstein will help Anawalt design the programming and bring his expertise in journalism and the arts to bear on the Fellowship's three weeks in Los Angeles. In 2006 and 2008, he served as the program's Senior Fellow.

Weinstein has been a columnist, critic, and senior editor at New York's *Village Voice*; a managing editor of *Artforum* magazine, fine arts editor and popular culture columnist at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*; and most recently arts and culture editor at Bloomberg News, New York. After graduate studies at the University of California, San Diego, he wrote about the arts, gay issues, food, and style for the *New Yorker*, *Art in America*, *Los Angeles* magazine and many other publications. He began an essay blog about culture and pleasure called "Out There" on artsjournal.com in 2007 and was faculty for USC Annenberg's NEA Arts Journalism Institute in Theater and Musical Theater in 2009.

The 2009 USC Annenberg/Getty Fellows were selected from an international pool of over 90 applicants from 24 American states and 16 foreign countries by a committee of arts journalists and journalism school directors.

For more information about the Fellowship, visit <http://annenberg.usc.edu/getty>.

### **About The Getty Foundation**

The Getty Foundation fulfills the philanthropic mission of the Getty Trust by supporting individuals and institutions committed to advancing the understanding and preservation of the visual arts locally and throughout the world. Through strategic grants and programs, the Foundation strengthens art history as a global discipline, promotes the interdisciplinary practice of conservation, increases access to museum and archival collections, and develops current and future leaders in the visual arts. The Foundation carries out its work in collaboration with the Getty Museum, Research Institute, and Conservation Institute to ensure the Getty programs achieve maximum impact. Additional information is available at [www.getty.edu/foundation](http://www.getty.edu/foundation).

### **About the USC Annenberg School for Communication**

Located in Los Angeles at the University of Southern California, the USC Annenberg School for Communication is among the nation's leading institutions devoted to the study of journalism and communication, with a specialized focus on arts journalism and criticism through its Master's degree program in Specialized Journalism (The Arts), a partnership with USC's five arts schools <http://annenberg.usc.edu/CurrentStudents/GStudentsvcs/SpecArts.aspx> Its mid-career education programs include the USC Annenberg/Getty Arts Journalism Program, the USC/NEA Arts Journalism Institute in Theater and Musical Theater, the Knight Digital Media Center and the California Endowment Health Journalism Fellowships. In addition to its programs for working journalists, USC Annenberg enrolls more than 1,900 students earning undergraduate and graduate degrees in journalism, communication, public diplomacy and public relations. <http://annenberg.usc.edu>

###