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ARCHITECT ZAHA HADID TO SPEAK AT WEXNER CENTER

One of the most celebrated architects in the world, **Zaha Hadid** comes to Columbus to give a public lecture **Tuesday, March 9 at 7 pm** in the Wexner Center's Mershon Auditorium. The designer of the internationally acclaimed new building for Cincinnati's Contemporary Arts Center, Hadid will discuss her past and future projects around the globe. Admission is free.

Hadid's appearance marks the inaugural lecture of the **DeeDee and Herb Glimcher Program Fund**, which supports an annual lecture at the Wexner Center by a distinguished artist or architect. The talk is cosponsored by Ohio State's Knowlton School of Architecture.

ZAHA HADID

Born in Baghdad, Hadid studied at the Rotterdam-based Office for Metropolitan Architecture, where she worked with such notable architects as Rem Koolhaas. She later established her own practice in London, where she is based today. Her wide-ranging projects—from a housing project in Berlin to a tram station in Strasbourg to a bridge in Abu Dhabi—have earned her a reputation as one of the most innovative architects working today. Her design for the first freestanding building for Cincinnati's Contemporary Arts Center received international attention, opening to great fanfare in 2003 and lauded as "the most important American building...since the end of the cold war" by the *New York Times*.

Hadid bases her designs on her paintings and drawings, which have been shown internationally and are included in the permanent collections of New York's Museum of Modern Art and Frankfurt's Deutsches Architektur Museum. Simultaneously engaged in practice, teaching, and research, Hadid has held the Kenzo Tange chair at the Graduate School of Design at Harvard and has been the focus of a retrospective at the Guggenheim. Upcoming projects include the National Center for Contemporary Arts in Rome; a ferry terminal in Salerno, Italy; a public square and cinema complex in Barcelona; and the Price Tower Art Center in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

Hadid has a silver tea and coffee set in the Wexner Center's current exhibition, *Tea and Coffee Towers*, on view through May 2 at the Wexner Center Galleries at The Belmont Building.

CALENDAR INFORMATION: ZAHA HADID LECTURE

Description: World-renowned architect Zaha Hadid gives a public talk at the Wexner Center. Presented with the support of the DeeDee and Herb Glimcher Program Fund, and cosponsored by Ohio State's Knowlton School of Architecture.

Date and time: Tuesday, March 9 / 7 pm.

Location: Wexner Center's Mershon Auditorium, 1871 N. High St.

Admission: Free.

Public information: 614 292-3535 and www.wexarts.org.

Digital images for press are available upon request; call Erik Pepple at 614 688-3261.

The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University's multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university's mission of education, research, and community service.

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