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www.MaltzJewishMuseum.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***About the Right of Being Different:
The Art of Diversity and Inclusion at Progressive***
Premiere at the Maltz Museum, Presented by Baker Hostetler

Cleveland, Ohio – March 1, 2011 – What’s so disturbing about being different? How does fear of not fitting in shape perception and behavior? Do you think the rules of our society encourage or discourage interaction?

Explore your own feelings and emotions through *About The Right of Being Different: The Art of Diversity and Inclusion at Progressive*, opening April 1, 2011 for an exclusive three-month engagement at the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage. Be the first to see this provocative show of contemporary art from the art collection of The Progressive Corporation, curated exclusively for the Maltz Museum.

Presented by Baker & Hostetler LLP, this stunning collection explores themes of diversity and tolerance, asking tough questions about our personal viewpoints and prejudices. Artworks range from traditional mediums such as painting and sculpture to the up-to-date technology of video installation. Works from well-established artists with international recognition share space with works from emerging artists, including local talent. All 39 of the artworks will challenge and enlighten visitors.

The Progressive Art Collection, conceived and nurtured by former CEO Peter Lewis, began in 1974 as a works-on-paper collection intended to beautify and stimulate the company’s Cleveland headquarters. In 1985, under the direction of Toby Devan Lewis, Progressive’s art acquisition philosophy evolved to include emerging artists working in a variety of media whose creativity and innovation reflected these same qualities in the company’s business vision. In that same year, Progressive established the Corporate Art Department, a full-time staff dedicated to the growth, management, and interpretation of the art collection. Today, the collection includes more than 7,500 artworks displayed in Progressive offices countrywide. For over 35 years, art at Progressive has continued to provoke and foster passionate discussion among its people.

“We approached Progressive two years ago,” says Judi Feniger, Maltz Museum’s Executive Director. “It was our dream that they’d partner with us to show a part of their phenomenal collection. People instantly recognize Progressive as an auto insurance giant and now by their ad icon, “Flo”, but even in their home town few realize that they are a major patron of the arts with a cutting-edge art program they use to spark dialogue and interaction.”

“Our art is intended to challenge and inspire people while serving as a visual reminder of the importance and necessity of risk-taking and innovation at Progressive,” notes Progressive’s Curator, H. Scott Westover. “It reflects respect for all people. Art at Progressive is provocative, and has fostered discussion and sometimes passionate controversy over the years.”

“A team of Progressive people wanting to learn more about the values of diversity and inclusion visited the Maltz Museum two years ago,” he continues, “and we immediately felt a strong connection between their work in diversity and tolerance and how the art collection works within Progressive’s culture. We had curated *About the Right of Being Different* for our people, hosting the exhibition at a variety of our corporate facilities around the



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country, and its diversity and inclusion theme seemed just perfect for the mission and beautiful exhibition space of the Maltz Museum. With the luxury of more space, we expanded the original exhibition to more than 25 works of art for this exhibition. Visitors to the Maltz are in for a truly memorable experience.”

A season-long offering of programs, performances and lectures on the themes of the exhibition will enhance the experience for visitors (for information on program themes, times and prices, visit maltzmuseum.org). Docent-led tours can be reserved daily for adult and student groups of ten or more, with discounts for groups of 15+ (reservations required).

Packs of 35 or more tickets are available at a discounted price. The Museum Store, open whenever the Museum is, will carry related merchandise and offers free gift wrapping. Parking adjacent to the Museum is free, and includes close-in handicapped and alternative fuel vehicle spaces. Wheelchairs can be reserved in advance. The Museum is a stunning venue for a range of private events with exclusive viewing of the exhibition; details and pricing on request.

Learn more at maltzmuseum.org or 216-593-0575. Become a friend on Facebook, or tweet with us on Twitter.

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This exhibition is presented through the generosity of Presenting Sponsor Baker Hostetler with support from The Alvin, Lottie, Rachel and Azzizi Gray Fund, Toby Devan Lewis and Stewart and Donna Kohl. The Museum is generously funded by Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture. Additional support from the Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the Museum with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

About the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage: The Museum of Diversity and Tolerance

Opened in 2005, the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage introduces visitors to the beauty and diversity of that heritage in the context of the American experience, promotes an understanding of Jewish history, religion and culture and builds bridges of tolerance and understanding with people of all religions, races, cultures and ethnic backgrounds. It includes An American Story, tracing Ohio’s immigrant history and heritage, and The Temple-Tifereth Israel Gallery, an internationally-recognized collection of Judaica. One admission fee includes unlimited access, and all levels of membership include unlimited admission. The Museum was created as a partnership of The Maltz Family Foundation, the Jewish Community Federation's Centennial Initiative and The Temple-Tifereth Israel, with research support from the Western Reserve Historical Society.

About Progressive

The Progressive Group of Insurance Companies makes it easy to understand, buy, and use [auto insurance](#). Progressive offers [choices](#) so consumers can reach us whenever, wherever, and however it’s most convenient for them—online at progressive.com, by phone at 1-800-PROGRESSIVE, or in-person with a local agent.

Progressive offers insurance for personal and commercial autos and trucks, motorcycles, boats, recreational vehicles, and homes. It’s the fourth largest auto insurer in the country, the largest seller of [motorcycle insurance](#), and a leader in [commercial auto insurance](#). Progressive also offers [car insurance online](#) in Australia at <http://www.progressivedirect.com.au>.

Founded in 1937, Progressive continues its long history of offering shopping tools and services that save customers time and money, like Name Your Price[®], the Snapshot DiscountSM, and a concierge level of claims service.

The Common Shares of The Progressive Corporation, the Mayfield Village, Ohio-based holding company, trade publicly at NYSE:PGR.

Your paid admission also includes access to the special exhibition.

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About The Right of Being Different: The Art of Diversity and Inclusion at Progressive

April 1 – June 26, 2011

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage

Admission & Tours

ADMISSION

Includes access to entire museum, including special exhibitions

- Maltz Museum members and children under 5 years: FREE
- Adults: \$12
- Seniors and Students ages 12+: \$10
- Children ages 5-11: \$5
- Ticket Packs of 35 or more: \$7 per ticket

SPECIAL: \$5 FRIDAYS

To celebrate the Maltz Museum's 5th year anniversary, for the next 5 months (April 1 – August 31), the museum will offer a **Friday only** \$5 admission price for any admission, with access to the entire museum.

TOURS

Group Tours are available by advance reservation daily, including Mondays. Admission includes a guided tour of the permanent or special exhibition led by knowledgeable docents, seamless, no-wait access to the exhibitions and a 10% discount to the Museum Store.

- Advance reservation required for groups of 10 or more.
- Special discounted rates for groups of 15 or more...Adults: \$8; Seniors/Students: \$6 (Groups of 14 or less charged regular admission)
- Additional discounts available for groups 35 and above. Call for details.
- School groups are \$3/student (1 teacher/chaperone per ten students admitted free).

Contact groupsales@mmjh.org or call 216.593.0575 to schedule a tour or for more information.

Drop-In Tours

Starting **April 3**, Drop-In Tours will be available for *About the Right* **every Sunday at 2 p.m.**; also Wednesdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. for *An American Story*. Groups of 10 or more should secure an advance reservation.

Museum Hours

Open for reserved group tours and private events beginning at 9 a.m.

Open to the public Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Wednesday: 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday: Noon – 5 p.m.

Monday: Closed (open by reservation for tours and events)

HOLIDAY HOURS: First Day of Passover – Tuesday, April 19 (CLOSED)

Memorial Day - Monday, May 30 (CLOSED)

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The Art of Diversity and Inclusion at Progressive*
April 1 – June 26, 2011
Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage

Programs

Accompanying *About the Right of Being Different*, the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage will present lectures, films and conversations about art and diversity.

All events are at the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage. **Tickets for all events are \$10/\$8 members in advance \$12/\$10 members at the door unless noted.** For more information or to purchase tickets call 216.593.0575 or email info@mmjh.org.

Illustrated Lecture: Corporation as Collector: The Progressive Art Collection
Wednesday, April 13...7pm

Why would a corporation collect art and turn office hallways into a gallery of cutting edge painting, photography and sculpture? Progressive Art Education and Communication Manager **Kristin M. Rogers** explores the value of art in the corporate environment and the creative philosophy of one of our community's largest employers. Come early to enjoy the special exhibition *About The Right of Being Different: The Art of Diversity and Inclusion at Progressive*.

Illustrated Lecture: Flight to Freedom: A Tribute to Jewish Artists
Wednesday, May 4...7pm

Joan Chesterton, Art historian and Professor Emerita at Purdue University, offers a fascinating illustrated presentation that pays tribute to the incredible contributions of four European artists who fled the Holocaust and immensely enriched American art—architect *Mies van der Rohe*, painter *Hans Hoffmann*, composer *Kurt Weill* and filmmaker, *Billy Wilder*.

Contemporary Music: No Exit New Music Ensemble
Wednesday, June 1...7pm

\$15/\$12 members in advance \$18/\$15 at the door

Experience contemporary art and contemporary music with a concert by **No Exit New Music Ensemble**. Founded by composer **Timothy Beyer**, No Exit is committed to promoting the works of living composers, particularly of young and emerging artists with a focus on presenting progressive music of composers in the Greater Cleveland area. Come early to enjoy the special exhibition *About The Right of Being Different: The Art of Diversity and Inclusion at Progressive*

Other Maltz Museum April – July Programs

MINI-FILM FESTIVAL—JEWISH AMERICANS ON FILM

Enjoy one or all of these unique perspectives on the American Jewish experience.

Purchase advance tickets for all three films and save! \$25/\$20 members

Hester Street (90 minutes)

Wednesday, May 18...7pm

Joan Micklin Silver's 1975 film is praised for its reconstruction of Jewish immigrant life in New York's Lower East Side during the early 20th century. Yekl quickly assimilates into American culture and becomes "Jake", but the transition is not as simple for his newly-arrived wife Gitl. Former Clevelander Carol Kane received an Oscar nomination for her portrayal of Gitl.

The First Basket (86 minutes)

Wednesday, June 29...7pm

The game of basketball spread like wildfire through turn-of-the-century New York settlement houses and proved a perfect fit for urban Jewish kids longing to assimilate into American life. Chock full of vivid anecdotes and distinctive characters this engaging documentary brings back famous as well as unsung basketball legends to reveal the rich history and amazing contributions of these pioneering Jewish athletes.

The Jazz Singer (90 minutes)

Wednesday, July 27...7pm

See Al Jolson in the 1927 original 'talking' picture! Young Jakie Rabinowitz defies the traditions of his devout Jewish family by singing popular tunes in a beer hall. Punished by his father, a cantor, Jakie runs away from home to become a talented jazz singer, but his professional ambitions ultimately come into conflict with the demands of his home and heritage.

Never Again, Never Forget: Holocaust Survivors Speak

Wednesday, April 27...7pm

In commemoration of Yom Hashoa (Holocaust Remembrance Day) join survivors **Ted Hersh** and **Helen Marks**, along with witness **Alex Lotas** as they talk about their experiences and the upcoming documentary *White Rose Black Rose*, a personal look at the Holocaust through the eyes of those who survived. They will be joined by creative consultant **David Beckman** who will show an excerpt from the film. Moderated by **Dan Moulthrop**, Curator of Conversation, The Civic Commons.

MAY—is Jewish American Heritage Month!

Jewish American Heritage Celebration at Cleveland City Hall!

Monday, May 2...5-7pm

Be part of this special event honoring Jewish Clevelanders and their contribution to our city! For more information call 216-593-0575.

JUNE

Cleveland's Jewish Neighborhoods: Beachwood

Wednesday, June 15...7pm

From a sleepy village incorporated in 1915 with a population of 151, Beachwood has become a thriving city of more than 12,000. Home to synagogues representing all branches of the Jewish faith, the Jewish Community Center, Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, and the new headquarters of the Jewish Federation, the large and active Jewish population has had a distinctive impact on the city and its history. Join **Sean Martin**, Associate Curator of Jewish History at Western Reserve Historical Society, in a lively look at our hometown.

JULY

Human Trafficking

Wednesday, July 6...7pm

Free with admission, reservations suggested

Did you know that every day thousands of children, teens, men and women are victims of modern-day slavery? Representatives from the **Collaborative Initiative to End Human Trafficking** discuss who the victims are, where they can be found, current legal remedies and what you can do help.

Cleveland and the Underground Railroad

Wednesday, July 13...7pm

Join activist **Joan Southgate** and members of *Restore Cleveland's Hope* as they bring to light Cleveland's antislavery and Underground Railroad history. The courage and resourcefulness of the American slave and the conductor families who risked so much for freedom serves as a backdrop for the fight to save the historic Cozad-Bates House in University Circle.

**COMING SOON
TO THE
MALTZ MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE**



**PROJECT
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JONGG**



SPRING 2012

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