

**INGRID CALAME:  
TRACES OF THE INDIANAPOLIS MOTOR SPEEDWAY  
TO PREMIERE AT THE INDIANAPOLIS MUSEUM OF ART**

**First Exhibition of Artist's Series of Large-Scale Drawings and Paintings  
Derived from Tracings Made at Indianapolis' Famous "Brickyard"**

May 25, 2007 – The Indianapolis Museum of Art announced today that Ingrid Calame's *Traces of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway* will premiere at the Museum on November 2, 2007. The exhibition, which will feature large-scale colored pencil drawings and enamel-on-aluminum paintings created over the course of 18 months, marks the first time that all of the artist's work in this series has been exhibited in one venue. The exhibition, which will be on view through March 16, 2008, will include the largest paintings in enamel-on-aluminum that Calame has ever created. The IMA commissioned this new body of work by Calame as part of the Museum's broadening contemporary art program.

"*Traces of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway* will bring an innovative local focus to the work of one of today's leading contemporary artists," said Maxwell L. Anderson, the Melvin & Bren Simon Director and CEO of the Indianapolis Museum of Art. "We are thrilled to showcase Calame's work in this exhibition, which represents an important intersection between the IMA's expanding contemporary program and its strong ties to the city and community."

Tracings for the exhibition were created by Calame and her twelve-person team during a week spent at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, which is home to well-known races including the Indianapolis 500 and the Allstate 400 at the Brickyard. Over the course of 18 months, the artist evolved large-scale paintings based on those initial tracings. Select works incorporate the same oil-based enamel used to paint window signs and pinstripe cars at the Speedway. The exhibition will include a latex and enamel wall painting, depicting a "victory donut" that Dan Wheldon laid down after winning the Indianapolis 500 in 2005.

Calame, a Los Angeles-based artist, is best known for her large-scale works inspired by tracings of the stains and graffiti found on the streets and sidewalks of Los Angeles, Las Vegas and New York City. These new works, which trace the tire marks, gravel spray, and other naturally-occurring patterns that pepper the asphalt surface of the Speedway, mark a conceptual shift in her subject matter.

"Instead of exploring the everyday abjection of the street, I studied the mechanical spectacular of the Speedway," said Calame. "The Speedway is a gladiator ring for these perfect machines - technological extensions of our bodies. Fast, sleek, fiberglass cars drive dreams of speed, death and victory, and the crashes are vicarious pinnacles of life and death for spectators."

*Ingrid Calame: Traces of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway*, along with other exhibitions in the *Forefront* series, is among the IMA's many contemporary programming initiatives. The Museum's contemporary program is evolving as a model for other encyclopedic museums as they engage the art of our time, with projects that include the recently-announced Efroymsen Pavilion installations, an ongoing exhibition series to showcase the work of contemporary artists, and the continued development of the Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park, which will open in 2009.

“Like the works in the Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park, *Ingrid Calame: Traces of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway* will encourage visitors to consider the relationship between art and the environment, looking closely, even obsessively, at one of Indianapolis’ most well-known locales,” said Lisa Freiman, curator of contemporary art at the IMA. “By tracing the racetrack’s distinctive patterns and transforming them into elegant abstract paintings and drawings, Calame has captured a unique, locally relevant form and elevated it to the realm of aesthetics.”

### **About Ingrid Calame**

Ingrid Calame received her MFA in Art and Film at California Institute of the Arts in 1996 and her BFA at the State University of New York at Purchase. Her work has been shown widely in exhibitions at numerous galleries and museums including the Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, the Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, Whitney Museum of American Art, San Francisco Art Institute, James Cohan Gallery, New York, Kunstverein Hannover, Germany, Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, and Deitch Projects, New York. She currently lives and works in Los Angeles, California.

### **About the IMA**

Encompassing 152 acres of gardens and grounds, IMA connects visitors to its unique and expansive view of art with its Indianapolis Museum of Art, the future Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park and Oldfields–Lilly House & Gardens. The Indianapolis Museum of Art is the fifth largest encyclopedic art museum in the United States and features significant collections of African, American, Asian, European, contemporary and decorative art, including paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings and photographs, textiles and costumes.

The IMA completed a \$74 million expansion project in May 2005 that featured three new wings, 50 percent more gallery space, expanded educational spaces, two new restaurants by Wolfgang Puck Catering and an enhanced museum store. The construction added 164,000 square feet to the Museum and includes renovation of 90,000 square feet of existing space. In order to present major exhibitions of its own and to accommodate major traveling exhibitions, the expanded Museum was outfitted with the new 10,000-plus square foot Clowes Special Exhibition Gallery on the Museum’s first level.

Located at 4000 Michigan Road, the IMA and Lilly House are open Tuesday -Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The IMA is closed Mondays and Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s days. For more information, call 317.923.1331 or visit [www.imamuseum.org](http://www.imamuseum.org).

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