



**James Nares' *STREET* at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art,
June 2 through October 28, 2012**



Hartford, CT, May 23, 2012: The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford, Connecticut will present its newest acquisition, James Nares' *STREET*, June 2 through October 28, 2012.

STREET is an unscripted 61-minute high definition video filmed by artist James Nares over one week in September 2011. The final video is a mesmerizing experiment in the nuance and beauty of everyday people and people-watching; providing a global view that extends beyond the streets of New York where it was filmed: from Battery Park to the furthest reaches of Upper Broadway, and West Side to East Side in Nares' personal homage to *actualité* films.

In Nares' words, "I wanted the film to be about people. All it needed were magical moments, and there are enough of those happening every moment of any given day."

"*STREET* is a brand new video work, subtle yet spellbinding, presenting subject matter that is highly relatable," said Patricia Hickson, the Emily Hall Tremain Curator of Contemporary Art. "This acquisition is a perfect complement to the existing works in our various collections and it continues the contemporary art program's commitment to collecting and presenting film and video work."

Nares filmed *STREET* on a Phantom Flex camera with an Angenieux Optimo 17-80mm T2.2 Zoom lens, while traveling through Manhattan at 30 to 40 miles per hour. The

camera was mounted in the back of a large SUV with all the seats removed, providing the ability to film from both side windows. These cameras are usually stationary, filming subjects moving very fast—*STREET* reverses this—the camera is moving fast while the subjects remain relatively still. Sixty-one minutes of slow motion video is actually the equivalent of three minutes in real time.

The soundtrack for the film was composed and performed by Sonic Youth's Thurston Moore.

About James Nares:

James Nares (born London, 1953) has lived in New York for the past 34 years. His oeuvre encompasses painting, sculpture, drawing, film and video. These diverse media are united by a keen interest in movement, rhythm and repetition. Nares's recent exhibition at Paul Kasmin Gallery titled *1976: Films and Other Works* received rave reviews. In 2010, Nares' film *PENDULUM* was part of a group show organized by Douglas Crimp and Lynne Cooke called "Mixed Use Manhattan" at Reina Sofia in Madrid. His work has been featured in group exhibitions at the Tate Modern, London; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Albright-Knox Museum, Buffalo; and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. In 2008, Anthology Film Archives hosted a complete retrospective of his films and videos. His work is in the collections of the Albright-Knox Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, among others. In 2013, Rizzoli will publish the first monograph dedicated to Nares' work in all media over the past four decades.

About The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art

The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art is located at 600 Main St. in Hartford, Connecticut. For more information please visit wadsworthatheneum.org.

Image: James Nares, video still from *STREET*, 2011. Courtesy the artist and Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York. © James Nares

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