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PHOENIX INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART (phICA) 5th EXHIBITION PROJECT *RESIDUAL BENEFITS: ARTISTS EMPLOYING RESIDENCIES IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE* OPENS NOVEMBER 16TH AT MODIFIED ARTS, PHOENIX

(Phoenix, AZ USA)— Phoenix Institute of Contemporary Art (phICA) inaugurates its fourth exhibition project *Residual Benefits: Artists Employing Residencies in Professional Practice* at Modified Arts, Phoenix, in conjunction with the Phoenix presentation of *Sue Chenoweth: Real and Applied* which was shown at Largo das Artes Gallery in Rio de Janeiro (August 4 – September 22, 2012). The exhibition is being curated for phICA by Ted G. Decker with Vicki L. Stouffer.

Residual Benefits: Artists Employing Residencies in Professional Practice includes a small, but impactful and richly diverse selection of works by professional visual artists who have attended artist residencies. Artist residencies emphasize community dynamic, mutual respect, cooperation, and understanding. These environments offer an artist the luxury of time to make new work, to conceptualize and experiment with new ideas, to be immersed in a culture or place other than where the artist is based, and to be a contributing member of a diverse, creative community of artists, often resulting in new trajectories in art making practice.

Artists in the exhibition reside in Phoenix, Los Angeles, Brazil, Cuba, and Portugal. They have attended artist residencies in their own countries as well as in some international locations. Participating artists include:

Wanderson Alves (São Paulo, Brazil); **Melinda Bergman** (Phoenix); **Fernanda Chieco** (São Paulo, Brazil); **Finishing School** (Los Angeles, CA); **Carolyn Lavender** (Phoenix); **Miguel Palma** (Lisbon, Portugal); **Gregory Sale** (Phoenix); **Fábia Schnoor** (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); **Karolina Sussland** (Phoenix); **José Angel Toirac** (Havana, Cuba)

Accompanying educational programming focuses on the value of including artist residencies as a strategy in artists' professional careers. It will feature one panel discussion on Saturday, December 1st, 2012 at Modified Arts with Sue Chenoweth and a selection of artists from the community who have attended artist residencies to discuss this topic. There will be a mix of artists on the panel who are represented with work in the exhibit as well as some who are not.

About phICA

phICA is a non-collecting organization that uses a collaborative approach to identify, quickly respond to and program exhibits of contemporary art by local, regional, national and international artists that are shown in college spaces, art centers, museums and art galleries. Our flexibility and “lean and mean” approach allows us to exhibit in a diverse array of venues and devote resources to promote civic engagement with art rather than operating a building and maintaining a collection. We focus on culturally-immersive artist residencies beyond art making, exhibition projects, cultural incubation initiatives, and arts education that promotes contemporary art and artists from the metropolitan Phoenix area and other countries to create cross-cultural exchange and establish common ground that benefits artists and communities.