

| O | K | L | A | H | O | M | A | R | A | R | Y | | C | O | N | T | E | M | P | O | R | A | R | Y |

PHOTO/VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lori Brooks, director of communications
405 951 0000 | lbrooks@okcontemp.org

What Goes Up Must Come Down: Cloud City Begins De-Install

Not counting the tens of thousands of people who drove by daily on Broadway Avenue, more than 7,700 people visited *Cloud City*, a large-scale art installation by Tomás Saraceno, installed adjacent to the site of Oklahoma Contemporary's future art campus from Sept. 8 to Oct. 30.

Cloud City begins its de-install this week, using a New York-based crew who have put up and taken down the sculpture each time it's been shown (on the rooftop of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and at the Green Box Arts Festival in Green Mountain Falls, Colo., in addition to NW 11th and Broadway in Oklahoma City).

During its seven-week Oklahoma City run, 4,500 visitors toured the interior of Saraceno's "utopian city in the sky." Another 3,250 visited the installation when the interior was closed.

Starting Nov. 2, the New York team will label the hundreds of Cloud City parts (each of its 16 room-sized modules is made of panels of Plexiglas and steel, connected via stairs and walkways and suspended via guidewires and anchors). They'll remove the connections, stairs and floors, then begin disassembly with a crane. The process will take a full week.

All of its parts will load back onto eight "lowboy" semi-trailers – two pods per truck – Nov. 8 and 9 to return to storage in Colorado and await its next installation.

Cloud City was on loan through and with the generous support of the Christian Keese Charitable Trust. It was presented by Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Other sponsors included Mercedes-Benz of Oklahoma City, Midfirst Bank, Annie Bohanon and Smith and Pickel Construction.

###

A media kit, including this release, time-lapse video of Cloud City's installation and high-resolution photos of the sculpture and events, is at bit.ly/OCcloudCitydeinstall. **Photos and videos of the de-installation and interviews with Oklahoma Contemporary's artistic director, curatorial director and exhibits manager can be organized through Director of Communications Lori Brooks (lbrooks@okcontemp.org).** Past press releases and additional information are archived at oklahomacontemporary.org/about/media.

About Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center

Currently located at State Fair Park, Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center aims to encourage artistic expression in all its forms through education and exhibitions. We endeavor to instill in the public a lifetime appreciation of the arts and enthusiasm for creative practice through a broad range of educational programs, exhibitions and cultural offerings, including:

- Youth art camps that help students begin a lifetime relationship with art and creativity.
- Art classes and workshops where students of all ages find the chance to learn and grow.
- Exhibitions that feature the work of emerging and mid-career artists.
- Free public lectures, artist talks and events that enrich Oklahoma City's cultural offerings.

Oklahoma Contemporary is in the midst of a capital campaign to create a spectacular new arts education and cultural resource on a 4.6-acre site at NW 11th and Broadway in Oklahoma City. The arts education campus will include:

A four-story, 50,000-square-foot building with classrooms, galleries, a dance studio and a black-box theater to promote learning about the artists of our time and educating those to come. Expanded classes in ceramics, fiber, painting, sculpture, drawing and dance, plus a new media curriculum with programs in filmmaking, animation, photography, web design and 3-D printing. A remodeled 10,000-square-foot building will house an Industrial Arts program, focusing on wood, ceramics, metal and jewelry. Grounds with space for outdoor sculpture exhibits, children's art education activities and outdoor music, movie and drama productions.

Oklahoma Contemporary is a regional 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization founded in 1989 by businessman and philanthropist Christian Keese and Kirkpatrick Foundation Director Marilyn Myers. Marfa Contemporary is the organization's first regional extension.