

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NEW DOCUMENTARY FILM FEATURING MODERNIST ARCHITECT JOHN LAUTNER SET TO PREMIERE AT THE DENVER ART MUSEUM

### DENVER FILM PREMIERE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR DESIGN ONSCREEN—THE INITIATIVE FOR ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN ON FILM

DENVER, CO - August 31, 2009 - [Design Onscreen](#), a nonprofit organization that produces, distributes and preserves high-quality films on architecture and design, announced today the Denver premiere of [Infinite Space: The Architecture of John Lautner](#) on Fri., Oct. 9, 2009 at the [Denver Art Museum](#)'s Lewis Sharp Auditorium. The new documentary film explores the work of the visionary modernist architect, John Lautner and proceeds will benefit Design Onscreen.

Lautner's iconic structures have been featured in numerous publications and films (including [Diamonds are Forever](#), [Die Hard](#), [Body Double](#) and [Pulp Fiction](#)) and are often known by their distinctive nicknames – "the Chemosphere", "Silvertop", "the Elrod House" and "Marbrisa". A major exhibition celebrating Lautner's work recently toured LA's Hammer Museum and Glasgow's Lighthouse Museum. In 1970, Lautner was made a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects for Excellence in Design. He also received the Gold Medal from the Los Angeles AIA chapter in 1993 for his lifetime achievement.

The 90-minute film will be followed by a question and answer session with award-winning [Scottish Director Murray Grigor](#) and [Cinematographer Hamid Shams](#). \$25 tickets include the Pre-Screening Reception and Premiere Screening of *Infinite Space*. \$150 tickets include, in addition to the Reception and Screening, access to the Post-Premiere Afterparty on the Rooftop Terrace of the [Daniel Liebskind-designed Museum Residences](#) with food by Gourmet Fine Catering, cocktails and music, as well as exclusive tours of the Martin Museum Residence and Contemporary Art Collection.

About the Film: [Infinite Space – The Architecture of John Lautner](#)  
[Infinite Space](#), a new documentary feature film, traces the lifelong quest of visionary genius John Lautner to create "architecture that has no beginning and no end." It is the story of brilliance and of a complicated life – and the most sensual architecture of the 20th century. The camera soars through iconic spaces, with commentary from Lautner, his colleagues, clients and family.

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## Denver Film Premiere

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As a young man, Lautner broke from his mentor, [Frank Lloyd Wright](#), and went west to California to forge his own unique style. His life was marked by innovation and inspiration, an accidental leap into the epicenter of pop culture, bitterness at lost opportunities, and finally – monumental achievement. Lautner was idolized by young modernists, criticized by academics, and beloved by the clients who worked side by side with him to build their houses. According to Lautner, “The purpose of architecture is to create timeless, free, joyous spaces for all activities in life.”

Since its 2008 world premiere at LA’s Hammer Museum, *Infinite Space – The Architecture of John Lautner* has garnered accolades at film festivals in Palm Springs, Montreal, Glasgow, Newport Beach, Tiburon and Sarasota. *Infinite Space* is a Google Company Production, in association with the John Lautner Foundation and the Hammer Museum. For complete credits, please see below.

#### **About the Director:**

Murray Grigor, filmmaker, writer, and exhibition curator, is internationally renowned for his films about architecture and architects. His first film, on Charles Rennie Mackintosh, won 5 international awards and he has since co-authored *The Architects’ Architect* on Mackintosh’s international influence. Grigor’s other award winners on architecture include groundbreaking documentaries on Frank Lloyd Wright, Robert Adam, John Soane and the landmark PBS series *Pride of Place* with Robert Stern. Grigor is currently directing a documentary film for Design Onscreen on the influential British designers Robin and Lucienne Day

#### **ABOUT DESIGN ONSCREEN**

Design Onscreen is a nonprofit organization based in Denver dedicated to the production and preservation of high-quality films on architecture and design. Founded in 2007 by Denver documentary enthusiasts Jill A. Wiltse and H. Kirk Brown III, Design Onscreen has produced a number of films. These films include: [Hella Jongerius: Contemporary Archetypes](#), which premiered in May 2009 at New York’s Museum of Modern Art and at the Museum of Arts and Design and [Journeyman Architect: The Life and Work of Donald Wexler](#), which premiered in February 2009, as part of Palm Springs Modernism Week. Presently, films exploring the work of renowned modernist architect William Krisel and the British designers Robin and Lucienne Day are in production. For more information about Design Onscreen, visit [www.designonscreen.org](http://www.designonscreen.org).

#### **About the Martin’s Museum Residence:**

Still, Stella, LeWitt, Warhol, Chamberlain, Calder, Martin, Lichtenstein... some of America’s greatest artists, are among those represented by major works in the collection of Sharon and Lanny Martin. The collection was created to be installed in the Martins’ Museum Residence designed by Daniel Libeskind, directly across the plaza from the Frederic C. Hamilton wing of the Denver Art Museum. Selected to take advantage of soaring ceilings and walls of glass, this collection beautifully merges an important collection of 20th century art and 21st century architecture.

**Schedule for October 9, 2009 Events:**

<b>Pre-screening Reception at MAD Wine Bar</b> Appetizers & Cash Bar (across from the Museum's Hamilton Building entrance)	5 – 6 p.m.
<b>Premiere Screening of <i>Infinite Space</i></b> at the Denver Art Museum's Sharp Auditorium	6 - 7:30 p.m.
<b>Audience Q&amp;A Session with Director Murray Grigor</b> and Cinematographer Hamid Shams	7:30 – 8 p.m.
<b>Rooftop Afterparty</b> (Great food, cocktails and music) At the Museum Residences	8 -10:30 p.m.
<b>Tours of the Martin Museum Residence</b> <b>And Contemporary Art Collection</b>	8:30 -11 p.m.

**CREDITS FOR INFINITE SPACE:**

A Google Company Production, in association with  
The John Lautner Foundation and The Hammer Museum

**Directed by** Murray Grigor

**Produced by** Sara Sackner + Anna Thomas

**Director of Photography** Hamid Shams

**Edited by** Sara Sackner

**Original Music** Elliott Goldkind

**Consultants** Frank Escher + Nicholas Olsberg

**Special Thanks** The John Lautner Foundation

**CAST** (in order of appearance): Sean Connery, Karol Lautner Peterson, Frank Gehry, Julia Strickland, Helena Arahuete, Judith Lautner, Frank Escher, John de la Vaux, Steve Ramser, Harry Williams, David Wasco, Sandy Reynolds Wasco, Leonard Malin, Guy Zebert

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Design Onscreen

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**LOCATIONS**

[The Mad Wine Bar](#) is located at 1200 Acoma, across from the Museum's Hamilton Building entrance.

The [Denver Art Museum's Lewis Sharp Auditorium](#) of the Frederic C. Hamilton Building is located on 13th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock in downtown Denver. Parking is available in the Cultural Center parking Garage off of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

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