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Nevada Museum of Art to feature 2008 FOR-SITE Foundation Artist-in-Residence Chris Drury in first U.S. solo museum exhibition

San Francisco - British land artist Chris Drury, recipient of a 2008 FOR-SITE residency, will be the focus of a solo exhibition at the Nevada Museum of Art from August 9 – October 5, 2008. *Chris Drury: Mushrooms | Clouds* will include new work created during his FOR-SITE residency in May. The exhibition also includes new work produced in collaboration with the Desert Research Institute (DRI) in Reno, NV, as well as paintings, prints, sculpture and video drawn from two of Drury's most notable ongoing series: Mushrooms and Clouds.

For many years, Drury has been interested in the relationship between the destructive and regenerative processes that occur naturally in the environment, as well as the ways that humans work with and manipulate these forces of nature. Drury works with natural materials such as plants, trees, mushrooms, water and other organic matter to fashion objects such as shelters, cairns, baskets, and bundles. One important element to Drury's artmaking process is to identify the conceptual links between the various materials he utilizes. The works included in *Mushrooms | Clouds* will reveal the intimate relationship between life and death as witnessed through the lenses of art, culture, and science.

One of Great Britain's most prolific and respected artists, Drury explores conceptual issues arising from the interplay between nature and culture. Often associated with the Land Art and/or Earth Art movements, and artists such as Patrick Dougherty, Andy Goldsworthy, and Richard Long, Drury distinguishes his art-making practices through his ongoing commitment to examining the "inner nature" of human consciousness and its relationship to the "outer nature" of the material world. Drury's works have been added to numerous collections including the Victoria & Albert Museum and the British Museum, both in London, England; and the Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA. Other recent solo exhibitions have been presented by the Vanderbilt University Art Gallery, Nashville, TN; Te Papa Museum, Wellington, New Zealand; and Villa Montalvo, in San Jose, CA. Drury was also awarded an artist residency with the British Antarctic Survey in 2006.

Beginning August 5, visitors to the Nevada Museum of Art will have the opportunity to observe and engage in the exhibition installation process for *Mushrooms | Clouds*. Chris Drury and the installation team will be at work on multiple large-scale artworks in the NMA galleries through August 13 during regular museum hours.

A publication documenting Chris Drury's residency at the FOR-SITE Foundation, his partnership with scientists from the Desert Research Institute, and the entire installation process at the Nevada Museum of Art will be published by the Museum shortly following the opening of the exhibition. The main essay will be written by Ann M. Wolfe, NMA Curator of Exhibitions and Collections.