

Glenbow Museum

For Immediate Release

March 14, 2008

Glenbow Projects DAFUR/DAFUR Photo Exhibit on Exterior

CALGARY, ALBERTA – From **March 14 to 21, 2008**, Glenbow Museum presents DAFUR/DAFUR, a provocative photography exhibit projected on Glenbow's exterior. Come see the Calgary premiere of over 150 large-scale colour and black-and-white images by seven photojournalists and one former U.S. Marine exploring the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Darfur, Sudan. The images will be visible at night outside Glenbow on Stephen Avenue (8th Avenue and 1st Street S.E.) between 7 and 11 p.m.

This traveling exhibit explores the lives of the men, women and children who are currently under attack in the Darfur region in western Sudan. The photographs were taken in Darfur from 2003 to the present by U.S. Marine Brian Steidle and photojournalists Lynsey Addario, Mark Brecke, H  l  ne Caux, Ron Haviv, Paolo Pellegrin, Ryan Spencer Reed and Michal Ronnen Safdie. The images are edited into three, 13-minute continuously running film loops, and accompanied by traditional Sudanese music. This exhibit provides a powerful look at the violence, anguish, suffering and destruction in Darfur, which continues today.

"These powerful images of family and culture under attack show us that the face of Darfur is our face – and that we have a collective, urgent responsibility to act," said American architect and creator of the exhibit, Leslie Thomas, who in September 2006 was motivated to provide national awareness of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Darfur.

The events in Darfur have killed and injured over 400, 000 civilians and thousands more have fled their homeland. Some have made new homes in this province, joining Sudanese refugees from earlier civil wars. Today, 20, 000 Sudanese – Canada's largest Sudanese population – live in southern Alberta.

"Some of the images in DAFUR/DAFUR may be difficult for people to look at," said Glenbow's senior curator Lorain Lounsberry. "We see the ugly part of the situation in Darfur –the burnt out villages, the unburied dead and the crowded refugee camps. But sadly, the siege continues. As a forum for discussion and debate, we at Glenbow hope this exhibit will shock people into action."

Under Siege: Darfur through Children's Eyes is a complimentary exhibit where Darfuri children used drawing to communicate the horrific attacks they endured. The NGO *Waging Peace* encouraged the youngsters to write or draw about their hopes for the future, or what they remembered – and their memories poured out onto paper. Villages aflame, people being killed and maimed, aircraft overhead strafing the area with gunfire – these are the tragic memories these young people will never forget. Their moving artwork will be on display in Glenbow's lobby throughout the run of DAFUR/DAFUR.

DAFUR/DAFUR opens at Glenbow Museum on Friday, March 14, 2008 at 7 p.m. Speakers include DAFUR/DAFUR co-curator Jayme McLellan, photojournalist Ryan Spencer Reed and

members of Calgary's Darfur community. The exhibition is accompanied by programs throughout the week.

DARFUR/DARFUR has been touring internationally and has been shown at venues including the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., the Jewish Museum in Berlin, the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. For more information on the exhibit visit darfurdarfur.org

Glenbow Museum presents DARFUR/DARFUR in association with Afrikadey and is generously supported in part by Humanity United and sponsored by Global Grassroots, a 501c3 non-profit organization.

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For more media information and interviews, please contact:
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