



Contact: Kasey Anderson
517.485.7237 office
248.408.3342 cell
kasey@donovanandsmith.com

**For Immediate Release
June 23, 2008**

ART EXHIBIT ENERGIZES ARTS CULTURE IN LANSING

LANSING, Mich. – *Social Discourse: An Arts Experience* has changed the way Lansing thinks about art. Taking place now at the Lansing Art Gallery in Downtown and the Banyan Gallery and Studio 1210 in Old Town, this exhibit offers artists' intimate perspectives of timely social issues.

Artists explored a variety of controversial topics. Some topics have dominated headlines. Others continue to bubble beneath the surface. However, all have sparked widespread interest, inspiring thoughtful discussion and impressive foot-traffic.

Lansing Art Gallery Executive Director, Cathy Babcock said, "Since its May 22 opening, more than 2,000 people have viewed the Social Discourse exhibit. Four hundred people attended the opening reception alone." Babcock continued, "This impressive attendance is a testament to the captivating work created by our talented Michigan artists."

A related show is also going on right now at the Banyan Gallery and Studio 1210 in Old Town until July 26, with the gallery open Tuesday-Friday, 12-6 pm and Saturday-Sunday, 12-4 pm. With an upcoming poetry reading and essay contest, the Banyan and Studio 1210 have taken an innovative approach to involving the community in the conversation around social discourse – an approach that continues to draw crowds.

For more information on *Social Discourse: An Arts Experience*, log onto www.worldwithoutart.com. The juried exhibit at the Lansing Art Gallery closes on Saturday, June 28. The Banyan and Studio 1210 exhibit closes on Saturday, July 26.

###