

PRESS RELEASE

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Beyond the Motor City: Rice Design Alliance to show film at Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Houston, TX (7 June 2010) As part of PBS's Blueprint American Screening Tour campaign, the Rice Design Alliance, together with The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston is pleased to host the screening of the film, *Beyond the Motor City*, on Thursday, June 17th at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

Beyond the Motor City examines how Detroit, a grim symbol of America's diminishing status in the world, may come to represent the future of transportation and progress in this country. The film explores how America's historic decisions to invest in highways and automotive infrastructure has come, in many cities—and particularly in Detroit—at the expense of accessible metro transit systems, sustainable development, historic preservation and urban vitality. While focusing on the hard lessons learned in Detroit, the film also offers the hope that America's largest cities are now uniquely poised to shine a spotlight on—and to offer sustainable and cutting-edge solutions to—our nation's transportation obstacles.

A panel discussion will immediately follow the film. Camilo Parra of the AIA Houston Urban Design Committee will moderate. Panelists include Robin Holzer of the Citizens Transportation Coalition, David Robinson of the City of Houston Planning Commission, Jeff Taebel of the Houston-Galveston Area Council, and Christof Spieler, member of the the Houston Metro Board.

Where: Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Brown Auditorium Theater, located on the lower level of the Caroline Wiess Law building at 1001 Bissonnet.

When: Thursday, June 17th at 7 pm.

The Rice Design Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of architecture, urban design, and the built environment in the Houston region through educational programs, active programs to initiate physical improvements, and the publication of *Cite: The Architecture + Design Review of Houston* and OffCite.org. Membership is open to the public. More information is available at www.ricedesignalliance.org or by calling 713-348-4876.