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Houston Arts Alliance Showcases Houston/Bejing Artist Weihong's Interactive Art Performance Teateria

Alliance Gallery, 3201 Allen Parkway December 13, 2012 – January 20, 2013

HOUSTON, TX – Houston Arts Alliance (HAA), a non-profit agency established by the City of Houston to advance the arts on its behalf, will feature Houston/Beijing based artist Weihong's exhibition and interactive art performance *Teateria* in the Alliance Gallery, December 13, 2012 – January 20, 2013.

The opening reception for *Teateria* is Thursday, December 13, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. with regular gallery hours for the interactive art performance on Fridays from 4 – 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 2 – 6 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to participate in the art performance, and reservations are suggested.

Teateria goes far beyond just an ordinary tearoom as Weihong uses the gallery space as a meeting place for people to come, interact, and drink tea. All of the teacups and tea for the display have been offered by her tea guests worldwide—people she has encountered over the years during her ongoing interactive art performance "255-0+Tea" and "Tea 4-2" project.

Weihong has collected portraits of more than 1,000 tea guests as a commentary on the search for balance in nature. *Teateria* takes the experience of teatime to a new level. The entire space alternates in a black and white pattern, symbolizing the yin-yang duality of the Taoist Chinese philosophy. Visitors will become Weihong's new tea guests, and also the guests of the people who have contributed the teacup and tea. As a result they will travel though a circular journey in the vast world of humanity where, as the artist explains, "Each teacup is an encountered person in a radiant Zen moment."

China born multimedia artist Weihong graduated from Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing, China. Weihong has presented her work nationally and internationally with exhibitions in Beijing, Shanghai, Milan, as well as New York, Houston and Dallas. She currently divides her time living and working in Houston, Texas and Beijing, China. More information about the artist is available at www.weihong.org.

To make reservations to participate in teatime with the artist during the opening reception or regular gallery hours, fill the online form at Teatime Appointment Form. For more information, visit www.houstonartsalliance.com.

About Houston Arts Alliance

Houston Arts Alliance (HAA) is a non-profit agency established by the City of Houston to advance the arts on its behalf. HAA distributes grants to more than 220 nonprofit arts organizations and individual artists each year. In addition, HAA invests in and nurtures Houston's thriving creative community by commissioning the work of artists for public spaces, managing the city's civic art collection, showcasing Houston's rich folklife traditions, cultivating business volunteers and empowering arts organizations to become sustainable and reach new audiences. For information on all events, visit HAA's online resource at www.artshound.com. For more information on HAA, visit www.houstonartsallinace.com.