



For Immediate Release

January 10, 2022

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LAUMEIER SCULPTURE PARK ANNOUNCES SPRING 2022 EXHIBITION, *SALUTARY SCULPTURE*

At a Glance

WHAT: A group exhibition of work by eight artists whose work explores art's capacity as a therapeutic tool for adaptation, recovery, and rehabilitation.

WHO: Artists Thomas J. Condon, Hope Ginsburg, Basil Kincaid, Marcos Lutyens, Guadalupe Maravilla, Dario Robleto, James Sterling Pitt, and Lauren Youden.

WHEN: On view February 12 – May 15, 2022. Please note that the on view dates for two outdoor pieces – Basil Kincaid, *Take Me Home* and Marcos Lutyens, *Rose River Memorial* – will be different than the indoor *Salutary Sculpture* exhibition dates listed above. More details available on request.

WHERE: Laumeier Sculpture Park, 12580 Rott Road, St. Louis, MO 63127. Inside the Aronson Fine Arts Center's Whitaker Foundation Gallery.

WHY: In the midst of an ongoing global pandemic and world-wide reckonings around systemic inequality and injustice, human beings arguably are experiencing heightened need for coping and recovery. This exhibition addresses the healing of mind, body and spirit as explored by artists, many of whom came to their current work through their own personal physical and/or psychic recuperation.



Guadalupe Maravilla, *Ancestral Stomach 5*, 2021. Dried gourd with mixed media. 19.5 x 37 x 8.5 inches. Courtesy of the artist and P·P·O·W, New York.

Detailed release follows



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Laumeier Sculpture Park Explores Art's Role in Healing with Spring Exhibition, *Salutary Sculpture*

(ST. LOUIS, MO) – Laumeier Sculpture Park will kickstart its year-long exploration into the themes of healing and wellness with its first exhibition of 2022, *Salutary Sculpture*, on view February 12 - May 15 in the Aronson Fine Arts Center's Whitaker Foundation Gallery. This group exhibition presents a selection of eight artists who explore art's capacity as a therapeutic tool for adaptation, recovery, and rehabilitation.

It is well established that art has salutary ("producing a beneficial effect" or "promoting health") effects, both for makers and for viewers/audiences/participants. The healing of mind, body and spirit permeates this work, not only as subject matter, but as actual practice. Many of the artists gathered came to their current work through a process of their own physical and/or psychic recovery. The exhibition will feature sculpture, photography, video, drawings, and performance.

Exhibition artists include:

- **Thomas J. Condon**, whose abstract photographs loosely replicate his own visual field as he regained his eyesight after being diagnosed with a rare illness, Idiopathic Pseudotumor Cerebri.
- **Hope Ginsburg's** work embraces social, participatory, and collaborative practices to address the health and wellbeing of the natural world. She uniquely blends meditation and mindfulness with the gear and techniques of scuba diving to link the calming of the human mind and body with the healing of the climate.
- **Basil Kincaid** blurs the lines between craft, sculpture, costume, and performance. He will show two works that feature quilting, a practice that has been in his family for seven generations. One of these will be presented inside the gallery. The other, titled *Take Me Home*, has been wrapped around an outdoor work in Laumeier's collection by Manuel Neri, where it will remain throughout the winter, as a nurturing gesture.
- **Marcos Lutyens** works across many mediums to examine issues linked to human consciousness. He will present selections from *Symmetries of the Mind*, an ongoing project centered on a rehabilitation clinic for stroke patients in central Germany where Lutyens is collaborating with the clinic director and other artists to push the boundaries of both traditional healing therapies and art forms. On the exterior of the Aronson Fine Arts Center, he will present [*Rose River Memorial*](#), a commemorative to those who have lost their lives to COVID. The piece will feature felt roses made by Girl Scouts throughout the region.
- **Guadalupe Maravilla** uses sculpture and performance as ways to heal and restore. The impetus of his work stems from experiences of trauma in his own life: fleeing civil war at the age of eight and making the journey from El Salvador to the United States, being an undocumented immigrant, and surviving cancer as an adult.



- **Dario Robleto** has long devoted himself to research-driven blending of scientific inquiry with the fragility and contradiction of the human experience. He will present a sampling of recent works exploring historical attempts to visually represent the human heartbeat, thereby blending the realms of love and emotion with health and science.
- **James Sterling Pitt's** drawings and sculptures are based on personal systems he developed to recapture moments in his life; an archiving of memories in the aftermath of suffering a traumatic head injury.
- **Lauryn Youden's** performance and installation work is driven by both research on eastern and western medicinal practices and her personal experience diagnosing and treating her own chronic illness.

In the midst of a devastating global pandemic and world-wide reckonings around systemic inequality and injustice, human beings arguably are experiencing heightened need for coping and recovery. In addition to the timely nature of those demands, *Salutary Sculpture* acknowledges artists' longstanding embrace of transformation, change, and adaptation. In other words, art's role in healing is nothing new.

This exhibition is co-curated by Laumeier Executive Director Lauren Ross and Curator Dana Turkovic. Turkovic states, "Laumeier is in a unique position to help promote well-being through art and through nature. The artists assembled here address a range of personal experiences and research interests, and each artwork in the exhibition reveals the power of art as a therapeutic tool. We hope visitors will find inspiration in how these artists use their creativity as a way to heal the body and mind and as a process to work through individual—and sometimes societal—trauma and tackle adversity."

Inspired by *Salutary Sculpture*, programs throughout 2022 will also feature the themes of health and wellness. Some of these programs will be led by Laumeier's Cultural Thinker In Residence—an individual who helps develop interdisciplinary programming. Laumeier's 2022 Cultural Thinker In Residence is Shelly Goebel-Parker, Professor of Art and Design at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. Her research and teaching involves the therapeutic intersections of art, social work, and community arts collaborations, with an eye towards increasing multicultural competence.

Public Programs

Multiple exhibition-related public programs—many free of charge—will be presented. Please visit www.laumeier.org for the most up-to-date list of programs.

VIRTUAL CONVERSATION SERIES / Dr. Shelly Goebel-Parker

Saturday, January 22 / 11 a.m. CT / Via Zoom / FREE, reservation required

Dive into the therapeutic intersections of art, social work, and community arts collaborations by participating in an online conversation with Shelly Goebel-Parker, MSW, LCSW, ATR-BC, Professor in the Art Therapy Counseling Program at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. During the discussion, Goebel-Parker will share insights into her research and teachings as well as introduce an Art Hive program that she'll be leading as Laumeier's Cultural Thinker In Residence.

Reservation required to receive Zoom access link.



CONVERSATION SERIES / Gallery Talk

All ages / Saturday, February 12 / 10:30 a.m. / FREE, registration required

Join *Salutary Sculpture* artists Tom Condon, Hope Ginsburg, and James Sterling Pitt for a gallery talk and a discussion about the current exhibition. [Registration is required.](#)

EXHIBITION OPENING

Saturday, February 12 / 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

All ages / FREE

ART HIVE

All ages / February 12, March 12, and April 9 / 1–4 p.m. / FREE

Art Hives are part of an international network of drop-in or pop-up art studios located in public spaces that invite everyone, regardless of experience, to be an artist. Each Art Hive program will feature an art-making activity inspired by one of the exhibiting artists and will be organized by 2022 Cultural Thinker In Residence Shelly Goebel-Parker.

FAMILY WORKSHOP / Intuitive Painting

Ages 4 to 12, with a favorite grownup / Saturday, February 19 / 1–3 p.m. / \$35

Work as a team to create an amazing painted masterpiece. Learn about the process of intuitive painting and tap into creative acts of self-expression. Experience your family through play, with paint!

CLAY CLASS / Mindfulness and Mud

Ages 18 + / Thursdays, February 24 - March 17 / 6–8:30 p.m. / \$120

Did you know that the art of ceramics improves mood, promotes problem solving, and awakens creativity? Take part in a 4-week class spending time for yourself and mindfully working with clay. Relax and unwind with wheel throwing, hand building, glazing, and sculpting in a critique-free environment. Experiment with textures, colors, and imagery to create meaningful ceramics made by your own hands. Wear old clothes, bring a towel and plan on getting messy!

FILM SCREENING / Dario Robleto's *Aorta of an Archivist*

Washington University / Friday, March 4 / 6 p.m. / FREE

Written, researched and directed by Dario Robleto, this high definition video accompanied by an original score examines the crossover of historical themes related to the cosmos and the human body, including the recordings of brain waves and heartbeats. This work was commissioned by the Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence, KS. Runtime 53 minutes.

VIRTUAL CONVERSATION SERIES / Lauryn Youden Artist Talk

All ages / Via Zoom / Saturday, March 12 / 10 a.m. / FREE, but registration required

Join Laumeier for an online conversation with Berlin-based artist Lauryn Youden to learn more about her artistic practice and her work in the exhibition *Salutary Sculpture*.

Depending on current St. Louis COVID-19 guidelines, these programs will be hosted in person or virtually. Visit laumeier.org for the most up-to-date information on exhibition-related programming.

LAUMEIER

About Laumeier Sculpture Park

Founded in 1976, Laumeier Sculpture Park is one of the first and largest sculpture parks in the country. Laumeier presents more than 70 works of large-scale outdoor sculpture throughout its 105-acre campus. It serves 300,000 visitors of all ages each year, with a world-class art collection, indoor and outdoor temporary exhibitions, education programs and public events. Laumeier is an internationally recognized museum, accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The 501(c)3 nonprofit organization operates in partnership with St. Louis County Parks.

Laumeier Sculpture Park's ongoing operations and programs are generously supported by St. Louis County Parks; Regional Arts Commission; Missouri Arts Council; Arts and Education Council; among other corporations, foundations, individual donors and members.

Additional funding related to COVID-19 relief has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Windgate Foundation, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the St. Louis County Small Business Relief Program.

2022 Exhibitions are supported by Ken and Nancy Kranzberg, Joan and Mitchell Markow and Two Sister's Foundation, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Mary Ann and Andy Srenco.

Salutary Sculpture is supported by the Whitaker Foundation. Basil Kincaid is one of two 2022 Kranzberg Artists. This fund, generously provided by Ken and Nancy Kranzberg, supports the presentation of new work by one or more St. Louis area artists per year.

For more about Laumeier Sculpture Park, please visit www.laumeier.org.

Images

High-resolution images available upon request.



Basil Kincaid, *Take Me Home*, 2019. Cotton, denim, silk, knit, brocade. 66 x 104 x 6 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



James Sterling Pitt, *Untitled*, 2021. Acrylic on ceramic and wood. 5.5 x 6.5 x 4 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Eli Ridgway Gallery, Bozeman, MT, and Ratio3, San Francisco, CA.



Tom Condon, *Second Cousins Twice Removed*, 2019. Chemigram on Fiber Paper. 20 x 24 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Richmond.



Hope Ginsburg, *Solo Land Dive: Dukan Desert*, 2015. Single channel video. 4 min 59 sec. Camera: Dylan Halpern, Sound: Joshua Quarles. Courtesy of the artist, Richmond.

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