

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 12, 2014

Lauren Kistner, Marketing & Communications Manager 314-615-5277, lkistner@laumeier.org

Laumeier Sculpture Park Presents Local Artist's First Public Artwork with 2014 Kranzberg Exhibition Series, *Tom Huck: Bugs*

(ST. LOUIS, MO)—Laumeier Sculpture Park presents 2014 Kranzberg Exhibition Series, *Tom Huck: Bugs*, October 4, 2014–February 1, 2015, in the Emerson Children's Sculpture Garden at Laumeier. Huck's first public artwork is based on a series of original woodcut designs inspired by the insects inhabiting the microenvironment of the Park. Two interactive bug "springers" and a climbing apparatus illustrate how nature and art—with a sprinkle of mischief—can inspire creativity and amusement in both children and adults. *Tom Huck: Bugs* is Laumeier's first commission of a permanent artwork by a St. Louis-based artist. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

During the exhibition, Huck will also serve as an Artist-In-Residence at the <u>Saint Louis Science Center</u>. "This collaboration with the Science Center will help to expand Laumeier's focus on the intersection of art, nature, and science," said Marilu Knode, Laumeier's Executive Director. "With *Bugs*, Tom Huck will illustrate how these disciplines, when experienced together, can inspire creativity and critical thinking about the various creatures that share the landscape with us."

Tom Huck: Bugs is presented as part of the 2014 Kranzberg Exhibition Series, which is generously supported by Nancy and Ken Kranzberg. Tom Huck: Bugs is supported by a grant from Mid-America Arts Alliance (M-AAA), National Endowment for the Arts and Missouri Arts Council, with additional support provided by Ellen and Durb Curlee. Laumeier was among 30 arts organizations in the region to receive an Artistic Innovation grant from M-AAA. Funding for the M-AAA Artist Innovation grant is drawn from generous underwriting by the National Endowment for the Arts. M-AAA, the nation's oldest regional arts organization, was founded in 1972 to foster cultural growth in heartland communities. Today, M-AAA primarily serves and supports communities throughout Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas.

What: 2014 Kranzberg Exhibition Series, Tom Huck: Bugs

Where: Laumeier Sculpture Park, 12580 Rott Road, Saint Louis, Missouri 63127

Emerson Children's Sculpture Garden

When: Saturday, October 4, 2014–Sunday, February 1, 2015

Final Installation: Friday, October 3, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Free Opening Celebration: Friday, October 10, 6:00-9:00 p.m.; Artist Talk, 6:30 p.m.

About the Artist

Tom Huck was born in 1971 in Potosi, Missouri. He received his MFA in Printmaking from Washington University in St. Louis and his BFA in Drawing from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Huck's selected solo and group exhibitions include: St. Louis Art Museum; International Print Center, New York; Kumu Art Museum, Tallin, Estonia; Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis; Daum Art Museum, Sedalia; Minneapolis Institute of Arts; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Milwaukee Art Museum; Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas, Austin; Biennale Internationale d'Estampe Contemporaine de Trois-Rivières, Quebec; Mesa Arts Center, Arizona; University of Windsor Gallery of Art, Windsor, Ontario; COBRA Museum of Modern Art, Amsterdam; Lamar Gallery, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles; University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana; and Pittsburgh Center for the Arts.

Huck's woodcut prints are included in numerous public and private collections, including: Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge; Milwaukee Art Museum; Minneapolis Institute of Art; Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City; New York Public Library; Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence; St. Louis Art Museum; and Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. He is represented by: Baer Ridgway Exhibitions, San Francisco; Sherry Leedy Contemporary Art, Kansas City; and David Krut Art Projects, New York. Huck resides in St. Louis where he owns Evil Prints, a studio where he produces his own woodcuts and offers printmaking classes.

###

Laumeier Sculpture Park is a living laboratory where artists and audiences explore the relationship between contemporary art and the natural environment. Founded in 1976, Laumeier is one of the first and largest dedicated sculpture parks in the country, making it an institution of international significance as well as a unique complement to the cultural landscape of the St. Louis region. Laumeier is a nonprofit, accredited art museum that operates in partnership with St. Louis County Parks. Projects and programs are supported by the Mark Twain Laumeier Endowment Fund, the Regional Arts Commission, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Missouri Arts Council and the Arts and Education Council of St. Louis. Laumeier presents 60 works of large-scale outdoor sculpture in a 105-acre park available free to the public year-round, and serves 300,000 patrons annually through temporary exhibitions, education programs, public events and sculpture conservation.