

MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA Announces Upcoming Exhibitions, Including Multiple New Installations Commissioned by the Museum

Yto Barrada, Lily Cox-Richard, and Marc Swanson Among Artists to Have Upcoming Solo Shows at MASS MoCA

North Adams, Massachusetts – October 6, 2021 – The Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA) today announced its upcoming exhibitions through March 2022, including a group show of contemporary ceramic art, titled *Ceramics in the Expanded Field*, and solo shows of work by Yto Barrada, Lily Cox-Richard, Amy Hauff, and Marc Swanson. A number of the artists have been commissioned by MASS MoCA to create ambitious new installations as part of their exhibitions, including Lily Cox-Richard and Amy Hauff, who had residencies at the museum earlier this year. General details about each exhibition follow below. More information about each exhibition will be released in the coming months.

“Our upcoming visual arts programming reflects MASS MoCA’s commitment to supporting artists in the creation of new work by providing them with the spaces, tools, and assistance they need to realize what is often their most ambitious work -- both in concept and scale,” said Denise Markonish, senior curator and director of exhibitions at MASS MoCA and curator of the upcoming solo shows of Lily Cox-Richard, Amy Hauff, and Marc Swanson. “We are looking forward to welcoming these artists, who have been working with us for years, to present their new works in North Adams.”

Ceramics in the Expanded Field **October 16, 2021 – April 2, 2023**

Featuring eight artists who are changing the way we think of ceramics by creating ambitious, large-scale, and innovative installations, *Ceramics in the Expanded Field* presents work that goes beyond treating ceramics as a discrete medium and instead use clay as one material or medium among many, from neon to paint and video to performance. The exhibition will features five new installations made for MASS MoCA, including new work by Nicole Cherubini, Armando Guadalupe Cortés, Francesca DiMattio, Anina Major, and Linda Sormin, as well as existing work by Jessica Jackson Hutchins, Kahlil Robert Irving, and Rose B. Simpson. While some of the featured artists were trained with a traditional ceramic focus and others arrived at the medium from other disciplines, all have utilized MASS MoCA’s expansive galleries to push clay in new directions in *Ceramics in the Expanded Field*. At the same time, they all connect their work to the complex material and social histories of pottery as well as other crafts that lie outside fine art definitions. *Ceramics in the Expanded Field* is curated by Susan Cross.

Yto Barrada: *Ways to Baffle the Wind* **November 20, 2021 – July 2023**

Yto Barrada: Ways to Baffle the Wind is an exhibition of new and recent work – sculpture, textile, films, and games – assembled to model, parody, and learn from attempts to regulate and organize nature. *Ways to Baffle the Wind* extends Barrada’s study of the tensions between personal experiences and scientific studies of our environments, both natural and constructed, and human

interventions in matter and movement beyond our control. The exhibition is the product of collaboration between MASS MoCA and Rivers Institute for Contemporary Art & Thought in New Orleans, and foregrounds Barrada's film, "Tree Identification for Beginners" researched in the archives of Amistad Research Center, also in New Orleans. *Ways to Baffle the Wind* is guest-curated by Andrea Andersson from the Rivers Institute.

Lily Cox-Richard: *Weep Holes*
March 12, 2022 – January 2023

Featuring entirely new work, Lily Cox-Richard's exhibition *Weep Holes* addresses ideas of stewardship, beauty and threat, collective action, and the building and dismantling of systems. While in residence at the Recycled Artists in Residency Program (RAIR) in Philadelphia, PA, the sculptor became fascinated by a giant bale of tinsel she found, and how the material continually transformed from the sparkling decoration we know to the dulled block that had been weathered by time. The works in *Weep Hole* will include, among other projects, the tinsel bale and a large-scale version of a hand-tied shaker broom made of recycled material from the waste stream – so large that it becomes like architecture. Both of these objects celebrate Shaker ideas of labor and reuse and will be highly crafted and ordinary at the same time – made uncanny by their scale and placement. Cox-Richard was in residence at MASS MoCA in July 2021. *Weep Holes* is curated by Denise Markonish.

Amy Haft
March 12, 2022 – January 2023

Amy Haft creates architectural installations that reorient our experience of the landscape and of planetary living. Haft's exhibition at MASS MoCA will make visitors palpably aware of their relationship to the curve of the earth and our distance from the moon. The centerpiece of the exhibition is *700,000:1*, which takes its title from the mathematical odds of a person on Earth being hit by a meteor. Constructed from two enormous spheres on the floor and the ceiling, viewers will be invited to ascend the lower sphere and place their heads in the upper sphere, invoking the feeling of being simultaneously on the ground and in the sky. Accompanying *700,000:1* will be a new installation commissioned by MASS MoCA about the unfathomability and allure of the moon, which Haft created when she was in residence during the summer of 2021. This exhibition is curated by Denise Markonish.

Marc Swanson: *A Memorial to Ice at the Dead Deer Disco*
March 12, 2022 – January 2023

Marc Swanson works across diverse media, creating sculptures and environments that explore the relationships between humans, culture, and the natural world. His most ambitious installation to date, *A Memorial to Ice at the Dead Deer Disco* will consist of two separate large-scale immersive environments. *A Memorial to Ice* is inspired by the dioramas found in natural history museums as well as Thomas Cole's writings on the negative effects of development in the Catskills region, while *The Dead Deer Disco* is a reimagined disco in which Swanson explores feelings of freedom and mourning in reference to the AIDS crisis. Taken together, these two installations confront loss and our inability to control human nature and the world around us. *A Memorial to Ice at the Dead Deer Disco* is curated by Denise Markonish. The exhibition at MASS MoCA will be followed by an exhibition at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in Catskill, NY, on view from July 13 through November 13, 2022.

MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA is one of the world's liveliest centers for making and enjoying today's most evocative art. With vast galleries and a stunning collection of indoor and outdoor performing arts venues, MASS MoCA is able to embrace all forms of art: music, sculpture, dance, film, painting, photography, theater, and new, boundary-crossing works of art that defy easy classification. Much of the work we show in our light-filled spaces, on our technically sophisticated stages, and within our lovely network of late 19th-century courtyards is made here during extended fabrication and rehearsal residencies that bring hundreds of the world's most brilliant and innovative artists to North Adams all year round. For more information about MASS MoCA, visit www.massmoca.org.

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