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The Momentary and Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art Unveil the 60 Artists to be Featured in State of the Art 2020

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High res images of select artworks are available <u>here</u>.

Bentonville, Ark. - The Momentary and Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art announced today that 60 artists have been selected for *State of the Art 2020*. As part of opening the new contemporary art space, the Momentary, the exhibition will be on view at the Momentary and Crystal Bridges from February 22 through May 24, 2020, free for all visitors.

Lauren Haynes, curator of visual arts at the Momentary and curator of contemporary art at Crystal Bridges, is leading *State of the Art 2020*, along with Alejo Benedetti, assistant curator of contemporary art, Crystal Bridges and Allison Glenn, associate curator of contemporary art, Crystal Bridges. The team visited studios across the country, resulting in the selection of a diverse group of 60 artists, from varied backgrounds and at different points in their careers.

More than 100 artworks will be featured in *State of the Art 2020--* most created in the last three years. A number of artists are making site specific works in response to the interior architecture of both spaces as well as the histories of this region. At both the Momentary and Crystal Bridges, artwork will include paintings, sculpture, photography, video, performance, and mixed media.

"State of the Art 2020 fits our vision for the Momentary and builds on some of what we've already done at Crystal Bridges--presenting contemporary artists who are making work that raise topics and important questions about this moment in time," said Haynes. "As we traveled the US talking with artists, connections between their work and ideas began to emerge, which drove the selection of themes."

The 60 individuals in *State of the Art 2020* represent a cross-section of artists working today and their artwork will be organized into thematic sections including **world-building**: creating real and fictional spaces; **sense of place**: investigating ideas of home, family, immigration, and more; **mapping**: connections to and relationships with landscapes and power, and **temporality**: the concept of time and how we perceive it.

Artists Featured in State of the Art 2020:

- 1. Sama Alshaibi | Tucson, AZ
- 2. Eddie Aparicio | Los Angeles, CA
- 3. Marcela Pardo Ariza | San Francisco, CA
- 4. Mae Aur | Memphis, TN
- 5. Frances Bagley | Dallas, TX
- 6. Paul Stephen Benjamin | Atlanta, GA
- 7. Frank Blazquez | Albuquerque, NM
- 8. Kate Marie Budd | Akron, OH
- 9. Amy Casey | Cleveland, OH
- 10. Domingo Castillo | Miami, FL
- 11. Alex Chitty | Chicago, IL
- 12. JooYoung Choi | Houston, TX
- 13. Alex Bradley Cohen | Chicago, IL
- 14. Jill Downen | Kansas City, MO
- 15. Carla Edwards | Providence, RI
- 16. Jenelle Esparza | San Antonio, TX
- 17. Peter Everett | Salt Lake City, UT
- 18. Joey Fauerso | San Antonio, TX
- 19. Jennifer Harge | Detroit, MI
- 20. Elisa Harkins | Tulsa, OK
- 21. David Harper | Philadelphia, PA
- 22. L. Kasimu Harris | New Orleans, LA
- 23. Mari Hernandez | San Antonio, TX
- 23. Mail Herrianuez | San Antonio, 17
- 24. Scott Hocking | Detroit, MI
- 25. Hong Hong | New Haven, CT
- 26. Letitia Huckaby | Benbrook, TX
- 27. Cory Imig | Kansas City, MO
- 28. Chele Issac | Madison, WI
- 29. Ronald Jackson | Spotsylvania, VA
- 30. Lori Kella | Cleveland, OH

- 31. Jody Kuehner (Cherdonna) | Seattle, WA
- 32. Nicolas Lobo | Miami, FL
- 33. Joanna Keane Lopez | Albuquerque, NM
- 34. Jova Lynne | Detroit, MI
- 35. Suchitra Mattai | Denver, CO
- 36. Hannah McBroom | Kansas City, MO
- 37. Art Miller | Kansas City, MO
- 38. Cristina Molina | New Orleans, LA
- 39. Jiha Moon | Atlanta, GA
- 40. Tabitha Nikolai | Portland, OR
- 41. Kris Pierce | Dallas, TX
- 42. Timothy Portlock | St. Louis, MO
- 43. Enrico Riley | Lebanon, NH
- 44. Kellie Romany | Chicago, IL
- 45. Anthony Romero | Boston, MA
- 46. George Sanchez-Calderon | Miami, FL
- 47. Jordan Seaberry | Providence, RI
- 48. Karen Seapker | Nashville, TN
- 49. Rick Silva | Eugene, OR
- 50. Anthony Sonnenberg | Fayetteville, AR
- 51. Edra Soto | Chicago, IL
- 52. Francisco Souto | Lincoln, NE
- 53. Damian Stamer | Hillsborough, NC
- 54. Su Su | Pittsburgh, PA
- 55. Jena Thomas | Spartanburg, SC
- 56. Stacy Lynn Waddell | Durham, NC
- 57. Larry Walker | Atlanta, GA
- 58. Diego Rodriguez Warner | Denver, CO
- 59. Didier William | Philadelphia, PA
- 60. Alice Pixley Young | Cincinnati, OH

State of the Art 2020 is the continuation of an exploration into contemporary art that began in 2014, when Crystal Bridges presented <u>State of the Art: Discovering American Art Now.</u> The exhibition sought to showcase art being created across the US and develop the understanding that contemporary art is approachable and relevant to topics of the day. More than 175,000 visitors experienced the exhibition and engaged in meaningful discussions and events surrounding the show. PBS created a documentary released in April 2019 called *State of the Art*, which follows the journeys of seven artists featured in that exhibition. After its opening at Crystal Bridges, *State of the Art* then traveled to the Minneapolis Institute of Art; Telfair Museums, Savannah, GA; Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis, TN; The Mint Museum,

Charlotte, NC; and the Frist Art Museum, formerly known as the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, TN.

Haynes adds, "Similar to the first *State of the Art*, we will bring artists to Northwest Arkansas to engage with the community. The exhibition will travel and we are currently building the national tour, with dates and venues to be announced at a later time. In addition, we're excited to commit to the next *State of the Art* in 2025, and plan to create a new exhibition every five years."

Bank of America, a partner and sponsor of the original *State of the Art* exhibition in 2014, is joining *State of the Art 2020* as the lead sponsor, in addition to sponsoring the exhibition's national tour.

"Bank of America is proud to support this distinguished showcase of American art by continuing our longstanding relationship with Crystal Bridges," said Katy Knox, President of Bank of America Private Bank. "This exhibition offers an opportunity to experience contemporary art from artists of diverse backgrounds. As the premier art lender in the country, we are proud to support individuals and institutions as they share collections that represent important trends in today's market."

State of the Art 2020 is sponsored by Bank of America (Lead Sponsor), Willard and Pat Walker Charitable Foundation, Christie's, The Coca-Cola Company, and the Crystal Bridges Art Now Fund. The national tour is also sponsored by Bank of America.

For information about the Momentary, visit the website <u>here</u>. For Enewsletter updates, sign up for the <u>Momentary interest</u>.

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About Bank of America

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About the Momentary

Opening February 22, 2020, the Momentary is a dynamic, innovative, multidisciplinary arts space, a satellite to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, which champions contemporary art's role in everyday life. Uniquely positioned in the demographic heart of the US and connected to the world, the Momentary welcomes all. The Momentary is located in downtown Bentonville, near 8th Street Market, at 507 SE E Street, Bentonville, Arkansas 72712. Learn more at theMomentary.org.

About Crystal Bridges

The mission of Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art is to welcome all to celebrate the American spirit in a setting that unites the power of art with the beauty of nature. Since opening in 2011, the museum has welcomed 4.6 million visitors, with no cost for admission. The collection spans five centuries of American masterworks from colonial to current day and is enhanced by temporary exhibitions. The museum is nestled on 120 acres of Ozark landscape and was designed by world-renowned architect Moshe Safdie. A rare Frank Lloyd Wright-designed house was preserved and relocated to the museum grounds in 2015. Crystal Bridges offers public programs including lectures, performances, classes, and teacher development opportunities. Some 265,000 school children have participated in the Willard and Pat Walker School Visit program, which provides educational experiences for school groups at no cost to the schools. Additional museum amenities include a restaurant, gift store, library, and 4 miles of art and walking trails. For more information, visit CrystalBridges.org. The museum is located at 600 Museum Way, Bentonville, Arkansas 72712.

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