DeCordova New England Biennial 2019 Opens April 5
Exhibition features 23 contemporary artists from the region

Lincoln, MA, March 20, 2019—Beginning April 5, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum will present works of art and newly commissioned installations by 23 New England-based artists in deCordova New England Biennial 2019. The selected artists are from all six northeastern states—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Featuring work across diverse mediums including painting, sculpture, video, photography, fiber art, and ceramics, the Biennial will occupy all galleries of the Museum and extend into the Sculpture Park with new site-specific commissions. It will be on view through September 15, 2019.

“Every two years the deCordova Biennial renews our appreciation for the ways in which New England is a vital region for contemporary art making today. This major survey presents some of the most dynamic, experimental, and distinguished artists in our area,” says Sarah Montross, Curator. “Featuring works by artists across generations and backgrounds, the Biennial can also be experienced against the backdrop of our contemporary moment, as artists respond to churning political dialogues, the weight and repetitions of American history, the pressures exerted on our ecological and cultural landscapes, as well as the increasingly indeterminate realms of truth and belief.”
To organize this exhibition, the curatorial team visited dozens of artists’ studios, museums, and galleries through New England, and selected the following 23 artists who represent a cross-section of contemporary artmaking in the region:

**Decordova New England Biennial 2019 Artists**

- Mildred Beltré (VT)
- William Binnie (MA)
- Bradley Borthwick (ME)
- Jenny Brillhart (ME)
- Eli Brown (MA)
- Carl D’Alvia (CT)
- Anoka Faruqee & David Driscoll (CT)
- Ken Grimes (CT)
- Yoav Horesh (NH)
- Erin Johnson (ME)
- George Longfish (NH)
- Eva Lundsager (MA)
- Jonathan Mess (ME)
- Zoe Pettijohn Schade (MA)
- Jordan Seaberry (RI)
- Alexandría Smith (MA)
- Sheida Soleimani (RI)
- Emilie Stark-Menneg (RI)
- Chanel Thervil (MA)
- Stephen Tourlentes (MA)
- Elizabeth Tubergen (CT/MA)
- Bhakti Ziek (VT)

*See artwork by each artist at decordova.org/biennial2019.*

An accompanying publication and a full slate of public programming and performances will enrich the show’s presentation (see schedule below). The Biennial is a mainstay of the deCordova’s programming and mission, and exemplifies the Museum’s commitment to New England artists. Decordova began hosting its Annual exhibitions in the late 1980s and inaugurated the Biennial format in 2010.

The **deCordova New England Biennial 2019** is organized by Sarah Montross, Curator, with Sam Adams, Koch Curatorial Fellow; Elizabeth Upenieks, Curatorial Assistant; Martina Tanga, former Koch Curatorial Fellow; and Scout Hutchinson, former Curatorial Assistant.

Support for this exhibition and publication was generously provided by two anonymous donors, The Artist's Resource Trust Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, The Meredyth Hyatt Moses Fund, and the Nathaniel Saltonstall Arts Fund.
Related Programming

DeCordova offers a variety of special events and programming in conjunction with deCordova New England Biennial 2019, including performances, workshops, tours, family activities, and more.

Curatorial-led Tour of deCordova New England Biennial 2019
Wednesday, April 10, 6:30–7:30 pm
Free; registration required
Join Curator Sarah Montross and Koch Curatorial Fellow Sam Adams for an in-depth look into the works on display in the Biennial. Learn about the works on view, the state of contemporary art in New England, and the process of mounting a large-scale exhibition with twenty-three artists.

Art for April Vacation 2019
Wednesday–Friday, April 17–19, 1–3 pm (drop-in)
Free with admission or membership
Join us as we create large-scale woven and architectural sculpture experiences in the Park inspired by deCordova New England Biennial 2019 and Arbor Day. Designed for families with children ages 5–12, but all are welcome.

deCordova Biennial: Reflections on Tech & Human Experience
Thursday, May 2, 6:30–8:30 pm
Free; registration required
Join Subforum, a team of Boston-area user experience (UX) design experts, in a sequence of conversations and activities throughout the Biennial galleries. Immerse yourself in dialogues about art, technology, and the human experience inspired by the art on display.

Eli Brown’s Museum of Queer Ecologies
Saturday, May 4, 1–3 pm
Free with admission or membership; registration required
Join artist Eli Brown, whose work is featured in the Biennial, as he leads an artist talk and interactive workshop. He will be discussing his Museum of Queer Ecologies, a wide-ranging project that extends queer theory into ecological studies.

Towers of Power: Self Portrait Sculptures with Biennial Artist Chanel Thervil
Sunday, May 5, 1–3 pm (drop-in)
Free with admission or membership
Work with Biennial artist Chanel Thervil to represent your super power though vibrant color and bold, abstract shapes. Add your unique element to a massive community installation punctuating deCordova’s landscape. This special ArtWeek program is great for all ages!

Confirmation: An Emilie Stark-Menneg, Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon, and Desmond Bratton Performance
Thursday, May 23, 6–7 pm
Free; registration required
Join Biennial artist Emilie Stark-Menneg with collaborators Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon and Desmond Bratton for a live performance of dancing, music, and poetry in deCordova’s galleries. Their piece will be in dialogue with Stark-Menneg’s film Confirmation featured in the Biennial.

Art and Neuroscience: A Gallery Talk with Nancy Etcoff
Saturday, June 1, 1–2 pm
Free with admission or membership; registration required
How do our brains process beauty, color, and texture? Join Nancy Etcoff for a neuroscientific analysis of works in deCordova New England Biennial 2019. Dr. Etcoff, an acclaimed neuroscientist specializing in beauty, will draw connections between art and the mind, offering a unique perspective on the Biennial and addressing the complex processes of visual perception.

Public Museum Tour
Every Thursday and Sunday at 2 pm starting April 11
Free with admission or membership
Join a Museum Guide for an enlightening gallery tour of the Biennial

Interactive Family Galleries
Families can have fun and get creative in deCordova’s two interactive family galleries, The Lab and Process Gallery (both open during Museum hours). These spaces offer opportunities to learn and play with hands-on activities, books, and more.

Process Gallery
Open during Museum hours
Inspired by deCordova New England Biennial 2019, the Process Gallery will focus on themes of perception and reality. Explore how artists create, manipulate, and transform our notions of what is real and what is constructed.

The Lab: Patterns
Open during Museum hours
Explore the theme of patterns as we take inspiration from artists in deCordova New England Biennial 2019. Delve deeper into repetition, mosaics, oversized tangrams, patterns in nature, and the Moiré effect.

Image Captions (left to right)


Carl D’Alvia, *Worm*, 2014, bronze, 27 × 20 × 28 inches, Courtesy of the artist

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About deCordova
Established in 1950 and located just twenty miles west of Boston, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum is dedicated to fostering the creation and exploration of contemporary sculpture and art through a dynamic slate of rotating exhibitions, innovative learning opportunities, a constantly changing thirty-acre landscape of large-scale, outdoor, modern and contemporary sculpture, and site-specific installations.

General Information
DeCordova’s summer hours (Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day weekend) are every day, Monday–Sunday, 10 am–5 pm. DeCordova’s winter hours (beginning after Columbus Day weekend) are Wednesday–Friday, from 10 am–4 pm, and Saturday and Sunday, 10 am–5 pm. Admission: $14 for adults, $12 for seniors, $10 for students (ages 13 and up), and free for children 12 and under. Members, cyclists, Lincoln residents, and
active duty military personnel and their families are admitted free of charge with proper ID. Visit decordova.org or call 781.259.8355 for further information.

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