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New sculpture commission by Oscar Tuazon opens in October 2014
Outdoor sculpture fuses maple tree with minimal concrete structure

Lincoln, MA, September 29, 2014—DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum is pleased to present PLATFORM 15: Oscar Tuazon, Partners, a new large-scale outdoor sculpture on view from October 6, 2014–September 1, 2015. Partners at deCordova will be the first of the artist Oscar Tuazon’s work in New England.

DeCordova’s long-standing PLATFORM series sees its fifteenth iteration with Los Angeles-based Tuazon’s innovative project in the Sculpture Park. PLATFORM is a series of exhibitions by early- and mid-career artists from both the New England and national arts communities. Following the goal of the program to engage with deCordova’s unique landscape, Tuazon took as his inspiration one of the Sculpture Park’s most defining features: its beautiful and varied tree species. Partners unites one of deCordova’s sugar maple trees with a tall, thin minimal concrete structure. The two pillars—one natural and the other artificial—rise from the Sculpture Park lawn, subtly joining together nearly two stories above the ground.

Though both elements of the sculpture have the capacity to be self-supporting, their union is delicately balanced so that each becomes dependent upon the other. Tuazon’s work thrives at this suggested impasse: the juncture when work of art approaches (though does not fully achieve) functionality, and when a (seemingly) utilitarian form ceases to be useful. The tension of this meeting of timber and reinforced concrete is further accentuated by the juxtaposition of nature and culture within deCordova’s bucolic landscape, as the concrete form references a greater urban landscape beyond the Sculpture Park.

With Partners, Tuazon merges the natural and the industrial to engage with ideas of architectural stability and conceptual failure, prompting questions about form and function as they relate to the creation of art.

About the Artist

Born in Seattle, WA in 1975, Oscar Tuazon is a sculptor living and working in Los Angeles, CA. Tuazon studied at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York, NY; the Whitney Museum of American Art Independent Study Program, Studio Program, New York, NY; and at Cooper Union School of Architecture, Architecture/Urban Studies Program, New York, NY. In 2007, he co-founded the collective-run artists’ gallery, bookshop, and publishing house castillo/corrales in Paris. His work has been shown extensively throughout the world, including at the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; and in the 2012 Whitney Biennial at the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY. He was also a participant in the 2011 Venice Biennale. He has had solo exhibitions at The Institute of Contemporary Art, London; Kunsthalle Bern, Switzerland; The Ludwig Museum, Cologne; and Public Art Fund, Brooklyn Bridge Park, NY. Among other accolades, the artist was recently awarded a prestigious Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant in 2013.
Exhibition-related Events

Meet the Artist: Oscar Tuazon
October 1, 12 pm
Join PLATFORM 15 artist Oscar Tuazon in the Sculpture Park for a discussion of his work as he installs his new sculpture, *Partners*.

About deCordova

Established in 1950 and located just 20 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 30-acre landscape of large-scale, outdoor, modern and contemporary sculpture, and site-specific installations.

General Information

DeCordova is located at 51 Sandy Pond Road in Lincoln, MA. Summer hours (beginning Memorial Day weekend) are every day, 10 am to 5 pm. Winter hours (beginning Columbus Day weekend) are Wednesday–Friday, 10 am to 4 pm, and Saturday–Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm. Admission is $14 for adults, $12 for seniors, $10 for students (ages 13 and up), and free for children 12 and under. Members, Lincoln residents, and active duty military personnel and their families are admitted free of charge with proper ID. Public, private, and self-guided tours of the Sculpture Park and of the Museum are also available. Visit decordova.org or call 781.259.8355 for further information.