DeCordova Announces Exhibitions Opening April 2018

Exhibitions feature special behind-the-scenes opportunity for visitors


Sculpting with Air features site-specific installations by two contemporary sculptors who use different methods and materials to engage with the ethereal quality of air. The public will have the opportunity to observe and talk to the artists as they create the sculptures in the galleries. Lived Space includes photographs, paintings, and prints that explore our psychological and physical attachments to the spaces we build and inhabit.

Sculpting with Air: Ian McMahon and Jong Oh
April 20–September 30, 2018 (plus behind-the-scenes opportunity April 4–8 and 11–15)

In Sculpting with Air, two contemporary sculptors will create very different site-specific artworks at deCordova by shaping the intangible element of air. Ian McMahon creates voluminous, pillow-like forms using an innovative technique of sprayed plaster. Jong Oh fashions almost imperceptible structures with string, wire, and Plexiglas. While McMahon emphasizes materiality, solidity, and containment, Oh focuses on transparency, lightness, and expansiveness.
Despite their contrasts, the two sculptors’ work is complementary. Both reshape space by exploring tension, balance, and force. They challenge our perceptions of gravity and perspective by creating forms that expand in the galleries.

McMahon and Oh emphasize process in their work, and often make their installations at specific locations rather than in their studios. At deCordova, they will create original, temporary sculptures that respond to the Museum’s unique gallery spaces. Sharing the creative process with visitors, the Museum will be open to the public while the two artists install their work between April 4–8 and 11–15. Visitors are invited to observe the artists working in the gallery and attend daily artist talks. The finished works will open to the public on April 20, 2018.

**Lived Space: Humans and Architecture**
April 4–September 30, 2018

![Image of sculptures]

The artists featured in Lived Space: Humans and Architecture explore the link between architectural elements and the inner world. In their work, interior rooms function as receptacles of memory, emotion, and identity. Some artworks show the human body merging with the built environment, while others present imaginary structures that exist solely in artist’s mind. Drawn from deCordova’s permanent collection, the exhibition addresses our need to adapt and relate to our architectural surroundings, as well as the ways in which these spaces shape and inspire us.

Shown in deCordova’s Dewey Gallery, Lived Space also considers the building’s architectural history, which has undergone many transformations since its original construction. Inspired by their travels abroad, Julian and Lizzie de Cordova remodeled their summer home in 1910 to resemble a European castle. When the building became a contemporary art museum in 1950, the Dewey Gallery transitioned from a private to public space, its ornate décor replaced by clean white walls. These shifts in deCordova’s architecture, prompted by Julian’s personal history, dreams, and passions, suggest an intimate exchange between humans and architectural space that extends far beyond one of basic needs.
Image Captions (top to bottom, left to right)


Jong Oh, *Compo-site #15*, 2016, Plexiglas, string, metal rod, weight, paint, 100 x 32 x 37 inches, Image courtesy of the Artist.


Sarah Malakoff, *Untitled Interior (Lion In Stairwell)*, 2002, C-print, 1/12, 24 1/2 x 21 inches, Museum Purchase with funds provided by Joyce and Edward Linde, Courtesy of the artist and Howard Yezerski Gallery.

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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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