

# ***“Hypotheses: art inspired by the many worlds of Science”***

## An open-call to artists residing/working in Ohio

### **Introduction**

In the Fall of 2018, the Columbus Cultural Arts Center (CAC) will host an exhibition of contemporary works by Ohio artists in a challenge set forth by guest curator, artist Amanda Tirey. ***Hypotheses: art inspired by the many worlds of Science*** asks artists to explore how concepts and discoveries from all branches of the sciences inspire artists working in a range of media and art forms. Art and science as creative endeavors have a long association, and indeed are often considered two sides of the same coin. The imaginings of science fiction writers has led to new innovations. Artists are employed by scientific institutions to imagine things too small or distant for direct observation – extra-solar planets; the workings of atoms. Sculptors working for museums give life to the skeletal remains of extinct species and human ancestors. Science returns the favor by bringing into existence new materials and techniques for creative manipulation, from paints and media, to LED lighting, to musical synthesizers, to virtual reality systems.

### **The Exhibition**

Artists submitting works for consideration by the jurors are asked to consider the myriad ways in which some aspect of science has inspired their art. Are you inspired by:

- Cosmology - imagery from Earth and space-based telescopes?
- Exobiology – the search for life on other worlds?
- Biology/Ecology – the natural world around us?
- Microbiology – the natural world within us?
- Physics – particle accelerators unlocking the secrets of matter and energy?
- Mathematics – how is it that abstract numbers help us define reality?
- New technologies – are you pushing the boundaries of making art?
- Biography – scientists who changed the way we look at the universe around us?
- Geology, Oceanography, Archeology, Anthropology? - really, sky’s the limit (and actually, we encourage you to go beyond the sky).

Work may be 2-D, or 3-D, and in any traditional or non-traditional style or medium (consistent with gallery rules and limitations).

An optional statement (<100 words) about how a piece might have been inspired by some aspect of science can be included as part of an artist's submittal.

## **Jurors for this exhibition**

**Amy M. Youngs** is currently working as an Associate Professor of Art at Ohio State, leading interdisciplinary grant projects and teaching courses in moving image, eco art, and art/science. She creates biological art, interactive sculptures and digital media works that explore interdependencies between technology, plants and animals. Her practice-based research involves entanglements with the non-human, constructing ecosystems, and seeing through the eyes of machines. She has created installations that amplify the sounds and movements of living worms, indoor ecosystems that grow edible plants, a multi-channel interactive video sculpture for a science museum, and community-based, participatory video, social media and public web cam projects.

Youngs has exhibited her works nationally and internationally at venues such as the Te Papa Museum in New Zealand, the Trondheim Electronic Arts Centre in Norway, the Biennale of Electronic Arts in Australia, Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo in Spain and the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA. Her writings have been featured in interdisciplinary publications such as Leonardo and the recent book, Robots and Art; and her work has been profiled in books such as, Art in Action, Nature, Creativity & our Collective Future. She has lectured widely, at venues such as the Australian Centre For the Moving Image in Melbourne, Australia and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, MN. Born in Chico, California, she moved to San Francisco, where she received a BA in Art from San Francisco State University. On fellowship, she attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and earned an MFA in 1999.

**Paul Sutter** is COSI's chief scientist and an astrophysicist at Ohio State where he studies topics ranging from the earliest moments of the big bang to the largest structures in the universe. As Columbus' own "Agent to the Stars", Paul is a prolific popularizer of science. He is the author of Your Place in the Milky Way and frequently appears on national television, including the Science Channel's *How the Universe Works*, History Channel's *In Search Of*, and monthly segments on The Weather Channel. His writings can be found on Space.com, Scientific American, and more. His own podcast and YouTube series, *Ask a Spaceman*, is one of the most popular podcasts in the world, and his Space Radio show on WCBE is a local and national hit. In addition, Paul strives to combine science with the arts to reach new audiences. One of his latest projects, *Song of the Stars*, was a Kickstarter-backed dance performance which recently aired on PBS member stations across the country.

**Jurors Awards:** 1<sup>st</sup>- \$500 2<sup>nd</sup>- \$300 3<sup>rd</sup>- \$200

### **A Traveling Exhibition:**

For this exhibition, the Cultural Arts Center is partnering with COSI, Columbus' amazing Science Museum. COSI has agreed to display a select number of works from this exhibition in their public space for three months following the run at the Cultural Arts Center. Selection of work for this traveling exhibition will be by COSI staff, consistent with the museum's policies.

**Eligibility:**

- The exhibition is open to central Ohio residents, age 18 and over;
- Works submitted for consideration may be 2-dimensional, 3-dimensional, video, or a combination;
- Artists may enter only their original, untutored work - NO REPRODUCTIONS OF ORIGINAL WORK;
- Artists may enter up to two (2) pieces.
- All artwork selected for the exhibit must remain as part of the exhibit for the duration of the show.

**Artwork Condition and Size Limitations:**

- Hanging work must be wired and ready to install (saw-tooth hangers and clip frames will not be accepted.)
- Hanging work may not exceed 6'x 6' or 100 lbs.
- Artists considering installation pieces need to be aware of the limited space available in the Cultural Arts Center's main gallery (a visit to the gallery is highly recommended). If selected, the artist or persons working for the artist must set up the installation, in a location selected by the curator.
- There are 16 15-foot high cast iron columns in the Main Gallery (see [http://www.culturalartscenteronline.org/gallery\\_floor\\_plan](http://www.culturalartscenteronline.org/gallery_floor_plan)). Artists may propose installations using one or more of these columns.
- Artists proposing video or computer-based artworks may be required to provide the necessary equipment for display.
- Glass or plexiglass must be used over water media, drawings, prints, photographs and collage.
- CAC staff and the curator will have the final decision regarding proper artwork condition and location of each piece, as well as appropriateness for a family-friendly space.
- Perishable items, artworks with hazardous components or work that creates a potential hazard, will not be accepted.
- Extra precautions should be taken with delicate and large pieces.

**Image Submission:**

- All entries will be judged from digital images submitted through an on-line form.
- Image size requirements: 1800 pixels on the longest side at 72 DPI, JPEG format only – save at the highest quality setting.
- One detail image of each piece is allowed, if necessary, to show an important feature

- Each image should be labeled with the artist's first initial, last name and the number of the entry (e.g., JSMITH01.jpg, or JSMITH01-detail.jpg)
- You can upload images [here](#) ;
- Required information includes: - artist's name, address, and contact information (phone, e-mail) - the title of the artwork (matched to the image number) - the medium (or media) used - dimensions - the price of the artwork, or NFS
- The curators reserve the right to refuse entry materials not prepared to these specifications.
- Upon delivery, if an accepted artwork is found to have been misrepresented it may be disqualified.
- Submission of an entry shall constitute agreement on the part of the artist or artist's representative that said images may be used without restriction by the Cultural Arts Center for the purpose of promoting the show (e.g., press releases, posters, social media promotion, grant requests and reports).

#### **Audio or Video Submission:**

- Audio or video entries should provide a link to an on-line hosting site that can be accessed without special permissions or membership (e.g., You Tube, personal web page).
- Submissions requiring extensive set up, audio or video equipment are the responsibility of the artist and representatives.

#### **Policies:**

- Insurance – The Cultural Arts Center maintains an insurance policy for its exhibitions; however, the value of the policy is capped and does not cover transport of art to/from the gallery. Artists are encouraged to seek their own insurance as well.
- Sales – The Cultural Arts Center will charge a 20% commission on art sales, and work should be priced accordingly. Work not for sale should be marked NFS with the insured value indicated on the ID form.
- The jury process is a closed and confidential process.

#### **Important Dates:**

- August 16 – Deadline for submissions
- August 21 – 31 – Jurying process
- September 6 - 7 – Acceptance notices sent
- September 21 - 22 – Artwork drop-off
- September 28 – Opening reception, 6 – 8 pm
- November 10 – exhibition closes
- November 12 - 13 – Artwork pick-up

## Questions?

e-mail:

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