



Press Release
For immediate Release:

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Exhibition: *MadArt in the Park* August 1 ~ September 12, 2010

Special Dates: Art In The Making: Outdoor Open Studio. August 1 ~11 10 a.m.~4 p.m.

Kick off Event: August 12 6~10 p.m.
• Artists on Site 6:00 ~ 9:00 p.m.
• *Film Festival in a Box*, “an outdoor screening of four short films, presented by IndieFlix”. 9:00 -10:00 p.m.

Location: Cal Anderson Park, Seattle WA (Capitol Hill)

Sponsors: MadArt, Seattle Parks & Recreation, 4 Culture

Six Site-Specific Contemporary Art Installations by Featured Artists:

Casey Curran —Alex Hayden —Amy Johnson
Justin Lytle —Jason Puccinelli —Stephen Rock



Alex Hayden



Casey Curran



Justin Lytle



Stephen Rock



Jason Puccinelli



Amy Johnson





Cal Anderson Park's Summer Look: *MadArt in the Park*

Many Seattleites are familiar with Cal Anderson Park. Mention the Bobbie Morris playing field, and an old timer might say, "Of course, it's that place next to the old reservoir on Capitol Hill." Well, that reservoir was capped, and has been converted into a seven-acre urban oasis for Seattle dwellers, especially those that make Capitol Hill their home. It is this neighborhood atmosphere that makes the park so beloved. It is why it is one of the most visited parks in the City of Seattle and ranked by Forbes Magazine in 2009 as one of the top 12 urban parks in the country.

Within this backdrop, *MadArt in the Park*, a six-artist sculpture exhibit (August 1 - September 12, 2010), will feature site-specific works by six selected Northwest artists. Chosen from a pool of 250 candidates, these artists will create works for the public to witness in their creation and savor in completion. *MadArt in the Park* is produced by Alison Milliman, founder of MadArt and long-time supporter of Northwest artists. *MadArt in the Park* is presented under the auspices of Seattle Parks & Recreation and 4 Culture, a not-for-profit arts organization. In reflecting on the success of her 2009 *MadArt Window Art Project* in Madison Park, Founder Alison Milliman says, "We wanted to create an organization that gives local emerging artists opportunities to create art in unexpected places. Typically you visit an art gallery or museum for your art experience. MadArt asks artists to create for the community itself. Through this approach, we can offer artists an experimental platform to search for new art forms."

To this end, Cal Anderson Park will become the open-air art studio (August 1 - 11) for visitors to watch and dialogue with each artist about their creative endeavors. Project Director Bryan Ohno, best known for his Bryan Ohno Gallery exhibits, the 2008 West Edge Sculpture Exhibition, and the 2009 *Window Art Project*, says "Unless you are an art collector or an artist, you seldom see the secrets of the artists' studios. There is so much magic that happens in these places. We wanted to give everyone a glimpse of this at the event."

The completion of *MadArt in the Park's* installation process will be celebrated Thursday, August 12, from 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. in the park. The artists will be on site to talk about their work from 6:00 -9:00 p.m. There will be a free open-air showing of four, short independent films, showcasing *Film Festival in a Box* as presented by IndieFlix from 9:00 ~10:00 p.m. Also that evening is Capitol Hill's Blitz Art Walk.

MadArt's mission is to support emerging artists in our community, to bring art into our lives in unexpected ways, and to create community involvement in the arts. Founded by Alison Milliman and directed by Bryan Ohno



Scheduled Installation Artworks for *MadArt in the Park*:

***Slant* by Casey Curran** Wood, grass, and metal — 15' diameter

What is the very thin layer between the atmosphere above and the earth below? What mysterious life does it hold and in what forms? Let's give earth its own mirror so that we can see and appreciate it! What can you imagine now?

***Park Bench* by Alex Hayden** Recycled wood and veneer — 5' x 17' x 8'

Here is a bench that helps us experience nature in an entirely different way. It is curved and undulated. First, you see it as part of the landscape. Then, unconsciously, you are drawn to sit down. While experiencing the moment, you begin to visualize the surroundings in a new and exhilarating way. Can you see it now?

***Wake* by Amy Johnson** Vine, wood, and resin — 15' x 20' area

Imagine a golden tree with leaves weeping low to the ground. The earth glows underneath. The large trees at Cal Anderson Park become a fragment of a much larger forest. Nearby is a bed, covered in dried, deceptively cushioning blackberry vines. Thinking of lying on the thorns makes one shiver. So scary, yet intriguingly beautiful. It echoes the fantasy of a fairy tale even references the bizarreness of *Alice in Wonderland*, once read to me as a child. Can it be real?

***Albatross* by Justin Lytle**

Painted Tyvek, wood and founded objects — 8' x 20' x 8'

Enter through the feathers into the belly of our harbinger, fallen from the sky. After consuming bright and shiny distractions it can no longer fly. Like the Ancient Mariner, the Albatross hangs around each of our necks as we rifle through the world searching for that next bit of treasure.

***Rocket* by Jason Puccinelli** Paint, column cylinder, and found objects — 17' x 5' x 5'

Early one summer morning, a rocket fuselage smashed into earth right in the middle of Cal Anderson Park. The two-story projectile will no doubt capture the imagination of park visitors, compelling them to draw close. From what strange place did it come? Is there any life form aboard? One can only discover the truth when they walk up and touch a few buttons.

***Brush Pile* by Stephen Rock** Turned, lacquered and painted wood — 4' x 20' x 8'

Our fast-paced society has made creating words a computer keyboard exercise. There was the long-held practice of calligraphy writing in which the elegant movement of hand strokes would capture humanity's struggles and successes over the millennia. A new discovery has been made at Cal Anderson Park where a recent excavation of dinosaur-scaled sumi brushes has been unearthed. For what were they used? What stories was mankind trying to relate?