

North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, NC, Announces Return of *Art in Bloom*, Presented by PNC Bank, in March 2022

The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) in Raleigh, NC, again hosts the visitor-favorite floral fundraiser *Art in Bloom*, presented by PNC Bank, on view from Mar. 16–20, 2022.

The five-day event features an international theme across programming, with large platform floral displays reflecting the diverse geographies represented in the People’s Collection, British florist Joseph Massie as special guest, and daily live global music. This year’s event will include an extra day and the return of the popular opening reception.

“We’re thrilled to once again host *Art in Bloom*, presented by PNC,” said Museum Director Valerie Hillings. “This fundraiser always offers a unique way to connect with the People’s Collection. The floral arrangements will offer fresh interpretations of visitor favorites and our latest acquisitions.

This year’s large-scale platform installations will be themed to reflect the multiculturalism of the North Carolina Museum of Art’s collection. The installations will focus on American, British, French, Indian, Dutch, and Mexican cultures. Live global music by North Carolina musical artists will be offered for the last two hours each day. Performers will include Peter Lamb Trio, Dulcimer Dan, Smitha Prasad, Ed Stephenson, and Haluk and Altug.



Visitors photograph a large-scale floral installation by Alison Creekmore, Julie Vaughan, and Seraph Sharpe of Wake Forest Florist and Gifts at *Art in Bloom* 2021.

“*Art in Bloom* has become one of the most anticipated events in the Triangle and, as the Museum’s largest annual fundraiser, is vital to helping NCMA deliver programming and exhibits throughout the year,” said Jim Hansen, PNC regional president for Eastern Carolinas. “As the founding presenting sponsor of *Art in Bloom*, PNC looks forward to helping NCMA bring this extraordinary concept and creative execution to the community again in 2022.”

Residents of the Triangle also can expect to see floral installations, including the popular “trash can bouquets,” popping up the week before *Art in Bloom*. The bouquets will land in new locations and feature novel spins on classic installations.

Special guest Joseph Massie is the youngest person to win five consecutive Royal Horticultural Society gold medals and four best-in-show awards at the world-renowned RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The Liverpool-based designer has worked on botanical projects across the UK, the US, China, Belgium, and Singapore. His floral designs have been featured at weddings, celebrations, private events, and corporate events.

“I could not be more excited to welcome spring with *Art in Bloom* at the North Carolina Museum of Art,” said



Visitors viewing a floral arrangement by Seraph Sharpe in the Judaic Art Gallery at *Art in Bloom* 2021.

Massie. “Collectively we’ve been through a tough time over the past 18 months, and I know we all look forward to the respite that *Art in Bloom* provides, with its abundance of beauty, joy, and creativity. I know this *Art in Bloom* will be a wonderful celebration of natural beauty, and I am so, so delighted to be a part of it.”

Related events include the return of the opening reception, themed as a global garden party; lunchtime floral demonstrations with Brie Arthur, Steve Taras, and Joseph Massie; a floral master class with Joseph Massie; a studio art workshop with Ann Marie Kennedy; and a film screening and discussion. There also will be a Spanish-language lunchtime floral demonstration with Frankie Garcia and Irma Mayo of Watered Garden Florist. All events are ticketed separately; entry to *Art in Bloom* requires an additional ticket.

Art in Bloom 2022 entry tickets and related event tickets are on sale for members and after Feb. 2, for nonmembers. Select events and time slots are expected to sell out, so visitors are encouraged to join as members. Tickets are \$30 for Members; \$33 for Non-members; and Free for children 6 and under, with a limited capacity. For ticket info visit (ncartmuseum.org/bloom).

PNC Bank, National Association, is a member of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE: PNC). PNC is one of the largest diversified financial services institutions in the United States, organized around its customers and communities for strong relationships and local delivery of retail and business banking, including a full range of lending products; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance, and asset-based lending; wealth management; and asset management. For information about PNC, visit (pnc.com).

The North Carolina Museum of Art’s collection spans more than 5,000 years, from antiquity to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum’s collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing special exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 919/839-6262 or visit (www.ncartmuseum.org).

Dorothea Dix Park in Raleigh, NC, Features Sculptures by Jorge Marín

Raleigh, NC, welcomes world-renowned Mexican artist Jorge Marín’s traveling exhibition, *Wings of the City*, to Dorothea Dix Park, on view through Mar.

31, 2022. The collection of nine bronze sculptures, sponsored by TowneBank, features larger than life figures – some

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winged and poised to take flight, others delicately balanced in acrobatic poses.

For the first time since starting its international journey in 2013, Marín’s *Wings of the City* will be accompanied with dialogue that includes the Mexican indigenous language, Purépecha.

The exhibition in Raleigh is made possible through a partnership between the City of Raleigh, Consulate General of Mexico in Raleigh, Jorge Marín Foundation, and the Dix Park Conservancy.

With more than 30 years of career, Marín is one of the most known figurative artists in Mexico. With his bronzes, he has ventured into different sculptural dimensions, ranging from miniature to monumental sculpture, formats that he has exhibited in Mexico and abroad, redefining public space, generating an unprecedented dialogue between art and audience.

Marín creates an aesthetic experience where the perfection of the human body is mixed, in balance, with allegorical forms and fantastic beings.

Originally exhibited in Marín’s home country of Mexico, *Wings of the City* has toured more than 20 major cities around the world since 2013. The Jorge Marín Foundation was established in 2017 to preserve and protect the artist’s work and to further Marín’s belief that “art is an



“Alas de Mexico” statue by Jorge Marín, is part of the “Wings of the City” exhibit in Dorothea Dix Park in Raleigh, NC.

indispensable tool to generate more reflective and peaceful societies”.

The City of Raleigh owns and operates Dorothea Dix Park, located at 2105 Umstead Drive in Raleigh. The Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that exists to support the City in its efforts, serve as its philanthropic partner, and help ensure the creation and long-term success of Dorothea Dix Park.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or e-mail to (info@dixpark.org).

North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, NC, Offers Exhibition Focused on Architect Phil Freelon

The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) in Raleigh, NC, will host *Container/Contained: Phil Freelon Design Strategies for Telling African American Stories*, on view from Feb. 26 through May 15, 2022.

The exhibition celebrates the accomplished North Carolina architect Philip G. Freelon (1953–2019) and his remarkable career of over four decades designing public buildings with his firm, The Freelon Group, and later as design director of Perkins&Will North Carolina.

“We’re honored to help tell the story of Phil Freelon and his incredible accomplishments. The symbolism and metaphors in the buildings he designed celebrate Black communities and histories in a lasting way,” said Museum Director Valerie Hillings. “Freelon served on the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation Board from 2008 to 2012, so we are especially pleased to present this exhibition focused on his groundbreaking career.”

This exhibition, organized by a team of faculty and students led by Dr. Emily Makas from the School of Architecture at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, debuted at the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African American Arts and Culture in Charlotte, NC. It examines Freelon’s work, which includes museums, libraries, cultural centers, and public parks, with a focus on projects that embrace Black communities and identities. Freelon often noted that architecture should be more than a container - it should help tell the story of and be integral to the content of public institutions. To explore the rela-



Noah Willman, “Phil Freelon”, Courtesy of Perkins&Will; © 2021 Noah Willman

tionship between the container and the contained in Freelon’s architecture, this exhibition analyzes connections among the forms, materials, and meanings of his projects and the histories and cultures they celebrate.

Freelon’s notable designs include the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC; the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta; the Museum of the African Diaspora in San Francisco; the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African American Arts and Culture in Charlotte; the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum in Jackson; and the

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