

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Laumeier Sculpture Park Presents Anniversary Exhibition,  
*Drawing from the Collection: 40 Years at Laumeier***

(ST. LOUIS, MO)—Laumeier Sculpture Park presents an exhibition in celebration and commemoration of its 40th Anniversary year, April 1–July 16, 2017, in the Whitaker Foundation Gallery at the Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center. Curated by Laumeier’s Curator of Exhibitions Dana Turkovic, the multimedia exhibition features a selection of works from the institution’s extensive collection of preparatory drawings, prints, works on paper, collages and photographs. The exhibition demonstrates the organization’s leadership in the area of contemporary public art by drawing on the breadth and depth of the outdoor collection and the many ways in which artists have approached temporary and permanent sculptural commissions throughout Laumeier’s history. The exhibition features works by internationally renowned artists including Vito Acconci, Ian Hamilton Finlay, Andy Goldsworthy, Donald Judd, Cildo Miereles, David Nash, Valeska Soares, Ursula Von Rydingsvard and Meg Webster, among many others.

“*Drawing from the Collection: 40 Years at Laumeier* focuses on the unique way these artists approach drawing as a method used to brainstorm, engineer, translate and complement their three-dimensional creations. There is an immediacy in the artist’s thought process that these works on paper communicate as they explore the gap between ideas and reality,” said Dana Turkovic, Laumeier’s Curator of Exhibitions. “The artworks in Laumeier’s Collection are unique in the sense that they function, in some cases, as diagrammatical studies in addition to studies of Laumeier’s landscape. Collectively, the artworks are sketches of a space that is not only a place for sculpture, but also a place for living.”

Laumeier Sculpture Park is free and open daily from 8:00 a.m.–30 minutes past sunset. Beginning Saturday, April 1, the Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center is open daily from 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

**What:** *Drawing from the Collection: 40 Years at Laumeier*

**Where:** Laumeier Sculpture Park, 12580 Rott Road, Saint Louis, Missouri 63127  
Whitaker Foundation Gallery, Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center

**When:** Saturday, April 1–Sunday, July 16, 2017  
Free Opening Reception: Saturday, April 1, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Free Coffee with the Curator: Friday, April 21, 11:00 a.m.  
Free Coffee with the Curator: Friday, May 19, 11:00 a.m.

Join Laumeier’s Curator of Exhibitions Dana Turkovic for a coffee break and casual tour of the current exhibition in commemoration of the organization’s 40th Anniversary, *Drawing from the Collection: 40 Years at Laumeier*. Refreshments are provided. Free, adult audiences.

### 40th Anniversary Activities

Laumeier Sculpture Park kicked off its 40th Anniversary year with proclamations from the St. Louis County Council and the City of Sunset Hills naming July 1, 2016, “Laumeier Sculpture Park Day” in honor and celebration of 40 years of providing St. Louis residents and visitors with world-class artistic experiences, education programs and special events in the unique cultural landscape of the Park. Later that month, Laumeier presented a free performance of musical selections in celebration of the Park, organized by Laumeier’s 2016 *In-Residence*: Composer Dr. Barbara Harbach and Conductor Dr. James Henry, both faculty at the [University of Missouri-St. Louis](#). The highlight of the recital was a performance of the original composition *Laumeier Sculpture Park Anthem*, by Dr. Barbara Harbach.

More information about Laumeier’s history and anniversary activities, including a running list of [40 Ways to Celebrate Laumeier’s 40th Anniversary](#), is available on Laumeier’s website. Multiple social media campaigns, including a year-long historical highlights campaign and seasonal sculpture interaction guidelines and favorite sculpture spotlight campaigns, can be found on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) (#tbt, #lovelaumeier, #laumeier40).

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### History of Laumeier Sculpture Park

Founded in 1976, Laumeier is one of the first and largest sculpture parks in the country. In 1968, Mrs. Matilda Laumeier bequeathed the first 72 acres of the future Laumeier Sculpture Park to St. Louis County in memory of her husband, Henry Laumeier. In 1976, local artist [Ernest Trova](#) gifted 40 artworks, with an estimated market value of approximately one million dollars, to St. Louis County for the formation of a sculpture park and gallery. Laumeier Sculpture Park opened as part of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation system on July 7, 1976. One year later, Laumeier Sculpture Park was officially incorporated.

Today, Laumeier is an internationally recognized, nonprofit arts organization that is accredited by the [American Alliance of Museums](#) and operates in partnership with [St. Louis County Parks](#). Projects and programs are supported by the Mark Twain Laumeier Endowment Fund, the [Regional Arts Commission](#), the [University of Missouri-St. Louis](#), [Missouri Arts Council](#) and the [Arts and Education Council of St. Louis](#). Laumeier presents 60 works of large-scale outdoor sculpture in a 105-acre park located in the heart of St. Louis County. Free and open daily, Laumeier serves 300,000 visitors of all ages each year through sculpture conservation, education programs, temporary exhibitions and public events.

In 2015, Laumeier closed its first major capital campaign, *Sculpting the Future*, culminating in the renovation of the Laumeier’s 1917 Estate House into the Kranzberg Education Lab and the construction of the new Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center for exhibitions, programs and events.

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Laumeier Sculpture Park: Engaging the community through art and nature / Laumeier Sculpture Park is one of the first and largest sculpture parks in the country. Laumeier is an internationally recognized, nonprofit arts organization that is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and operates in partnership with St. Louis County Parks. Laumeier presents 60 works of large-scale outdoor sculpture in a 105-acre park located in the heart of St. Louis County. Free and open daily, Laumeier serves 300,000 visitors of all ages each year through sculpture conservation, education programs, temporary exhibitions and public events.