



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2013

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GREEN HILL CENTER ANNOUNCES EXHIBITION SPEAKING IN SPECIES | A NORTH CAROLINA PERSPECTIVE



Figure 1



Figure 2

GREENSBORO, NC— Green Hill Center for NC Art announces the exhibition *Speaking in Species: A North Carolina Perspective* on display June 14, 2013 – August 18, 2013. *Speaking in Species*, funded through a grant from the Windgate Charitable Foundation, presents the work of 27 artists, both seasoned makers and the next generation of makers, working in wood.

This exhibition, guest curated by Brent Skidmore, brings the art of woodworking to a new level. Skidmore is an Assistant Professor of Art, Director of Craft Studies at UNC-Asheville and maintains a studio at Grovewood Studios in Asheville. He received his MFA in Sculpture from Indiana University and a BFA in Sculpture from Murray State University where he was first introduced to wood as an artistic medium. Skidmore's work and processes are included in a 2007 Lark Publication entitled "The Penland Book of Woodworking." He has shown his work extensively across the country as well as internationally; showing in Finland and most recently in Dubai. Exhibitions of Skidmore's personal work have included the Smithsonian Craft Show and SOFA Chicago.

Skidmore, and the group of artists he has selected for *Speaking in Species*, all bring an expressive language to the art of woodworking. "There are over 100,000 species of wood; think about the opportunity for an artist. Every specie of wood brings unique qualities and expressive characteristics. With the 27 artists assembled by Brent Skidmore in *Speaking in Species*, we get a glimpse of the enormity wood offers us in our lives and in art. From furniture to ornamentation and so much in between," said Laura Way, Executive Director of Green Hill Center. Through the exhibition, Skidmore captures the role wood plays in daily life and its universality. "From cradle to grave, we interact, own and even inhabit things made of wood. From early on, we might encounter bassinets, spoons, bowls, ladles, beds, brooms, shoes, boats, and flying machines. We walk on bridges to houses in which we live, before finally being buried in a wooden box under a tree. Wood is ubiquitous, common and simultaneously complex all at the same time," he said.

From his strong network of colleagues, Skidmore selected artists who embrace innovation, longevity and creativity. Fulltime makers, industry specialists and educators are all represented; each using wood in unique ways. Beyond the variety of experience and talent, the viewer will be exposed to an unexpected culmination of sculpture, fine craft, instruments, illustrations and painted surfaces in works both large and small in scale. Skidmore said, "I wanted a mixture of works ranging from traditional, like a Windsor chair, to the most

exciting wooden sculpture out there; works that would stand up well outside of the home boundaries.” The works range from functional furniture, like Richard Prisco and John Clark, to the monumental sculptural work of Stoney Lamar. This is juxtaposed to the visionary work of Elizabeth Alexander, Sylvia Rosenthal and others.

Below is the full list of participating artists:

Chris Abel
Elizabeth Alexander
Fatie Atkinson
Elia Bizzari
David Caldwell
John Clark
Melissa Engler
Dustin Farnsworth
Brian Fireman
Russell Gale
Mark Gardner
Derek Hennigar
Robyn Horn
Stoney Lamar
Timothy Maddox
David Merrifield
Brad Reed Nelson
Kurt Nielsen
George Peterson
Richard Prisco
Nathan Rose
Sylvie Rosenthal
Tom Shields
Al Spicer
Joël Urruty
Michael Waldeck
Robert Winkler

Programming associated with *Speaking in Species*:

- **Members & Sponsors Preview, June 13, 2013 | 5:30-7:30 PM**
Guest Curator’s Talk and Walk-through 6-6:30 pm
Guest Curator, Brent Skidmore will give a walk-through tour of *Speaking in Species*
- **First Friday, August 2, 2013 | 6-9 PM**
With musical performance by Bound to Have a Little Fun
Bound to Have a Little Fun will play in The Gallery at Green Hill Center. Instruments consist of a bass, accordion, fiddle, autoharp, mandolin, guitar, and banjo. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments and light hors d’oeuvres provided by The Fresh Market. Cash Bar.

Many works of art included in the exhibition will be available for sale with 60% of proceeds going directly to the artist. Green Hill Center for NC Art is located at 200 North Davie Street, in the Greensboro Cultural Center. Green Hill Center is the only non-collecting institution dedicated to presenting, promoting, and advocating contemporary visual art and artists of North Carolina. For more information visit www.greenhillcenter.org.

IMAGE INFORMATION

Figure #1: Sylvie Rosenthal, Beacon, 2010, Bass, Polar, Pain, 96 x 16 x 22 inches

Figure #2: Brian Fireman, Swallowtail, Walnut frame, Cocobolo seat, 24 x 23 x 43 inches

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