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## **CREATURES: *WHEN SPECIES MEET***

**May 10 – August 18, 2019**

**Organized by the Contemporary Arts Center; Curated by Steven Matijcio**

**CINCINNATI, April 2019**—This Spring, the Contemporary Arts Center will host a new exhibition titled, *Creatures: When Species Meet*, a multi-artist exhibition that challenges the relationship between humans and animals, opening on May 10, 2019. The CAC will be the first to show this paradigm shifting display of work from 36 renowned global artists—including Duke Riley, Tomàs Saraceno and Laura Lima—featuring a collection videos, paintings, sculptures, and live animals.

Western civilization has long looked at the many living creatures outside of mankind as less than equals, rather than peers. *Creatures* explores what equality means within the ecosystem. “This exhibition brings together an international coterie of artists that enlist this untamed, “wild” other as partners in the production of art,” says Steven Matijcio, Curator for the exhibition. “While such an exchange can never truly be equal, this collection of works points to a place where shared efforts grow ever closer.”

“We’re excited to bring this compelling collection of work to Cincinnati, exploring a different side of the intersection between creatures–human or otherwise,” says Alice & Harris Weston Director, Raphaela Platow. “We believe it will create opportunities for an important and ongoing discussion.”

In developing this exhibition, the CAC worked closely with an advisory group of experts in animal welfare—including representatives from SPCA Cincinnati and League for Animal Welfare—to ensure best practices and care were employed when working with live animals. No animals were harmed in the creation of this exhibition or the work on display.

Working in partnership with SPCA Cincinnati, cat adoptions will take place in conjunction with the installation work created by artist Brian Jungen on Saturdays through the run of the exhibition.

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

Exhibition Run: May 10 – August 18, 2019

Exhibition Opening Celebration: May 10, 2019 – 8PM

## **PARTICIPATING ARTISTS:**

Agnieszka Kurant / Björn Braun / Carla Bengtson / Brian House / Brian Jungen / Corinna Schnitt / Doug Aitken / Duke Riley / Francis Alÿs / Hilary Berseeth / Jeff Whetstone / Joseph Beuys / Julius von Bismarck & Julian Charrière / Komar and Melamid / Marina Abramovic / Max Hooper Schneider / Miguel Angel Ríos / Miguel Calderón / Nina Katchadourian / Pilar Albarracín / Rivane Neuenschwander & Cao Guimarães / Shimabuku / Tomás Saraceno / William Wegman / Yukinori Yanagi

## **SPONSORSHIP:**

This exhibition is generously supported by Formica Corporation, David and Gale Beckett, ArtsWave, Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trusts, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee

*No animals or insects were harmed in the making of this exhibition.*

## **Contemporary Arts Center (CAC)**

The CAC's mission is to provide the opportunity for all people to discover the dynamic relationship between art and life. Only one year after our founding in 1939, the CAC hosted one of the first Midwest exhibitions of Picasso's *Guernica* and in 1963 presented one of the first exhibitions of Pop Art, featuring Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, and Jim Dine. The CAC's 1975 exhibition *Video Art* featured important work by Nam June Paik and representing the United States at the Sao Paulo Biennale. In 1990 the CAC presented (and successfully defended) Robert Mapplethorpe's exhibition *The Perfect Moment* which became a lightning rod in the culture wars as then CAC Director Dennis Barrie was acquitted on charges of obscenity. In 2004 the CAC organized *Beautiful Losers*— the first museum survey to spotlight a loose-knit group of American artists who were influenced by popular underground subcultures of the 1990s. In 2010 and 2011, the CAC presented an extensive exploration of Shepard Fairey's 20-year career, followed by *Keith Haring 1978-1982*, a historic exhibit of rarely exhibited early work from this iconic artist. More recent highlights have involved the first solo U.S. museum presentations of artists such as Anri Sala, Michael Sailstorfer, Atul Dodiya and Albano Afonso.

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