



‘CREATE-IN-PLACE,’ ARTISTS REMAIN CREATIVE DURING PANDEMIC

Kirkland Museum’s next virtual exhibition talks to Colorado artists in their collection about the creative process during the COVID-19 shelter-in-place order

Denver, July 14, 2020 – Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art is proud to represent Colorado’s art history in the virtual exhibition [*Creating-In-Place: See what Kirkland’s Colorado artists have been up to!*](#) which launches online Thursday, July 16.

Valuing the relationships built with artists represented in the collection, Kirkland Museum staff reached out to those with work on view and asked these questions during the recent shelter-in-place order:

- Are you currently making art?
- Where are you working?
- Are you doing any work that is a direct response to the pandemic?

The compiled responses encompass the museum’s latest virtual exhibition, including images and quotes by artists hard at work under unusual circumstances.

“We are proud to provide socially distanced recognition for these local artists who continue to contribute to our state’s always-growing tapestry of creativity,” states Associate Museum Director Renée Albiston.

Featuring responses from 25 Colorado artists who currently have work on view at Kirkland Museum, *Create-In-Place* features painters, sculptors, printmakers and ceramists.

“Kirkland Museum is one of the few institutions providing an in-depth look at the history of Colorado art from traditional through modern, which has provided the foundation for local contemporary artists,” explains Founding Director & Curator Hugh Grant.

“Colorado painters, sculptors, printmakers and ceramists continue to make important contributions not only to our state and the West, but also to America’s art history.”

Of note, featured artist Ray Tomasso passed away unexpectedly on June 25 after responding to the survey. Ray’s work can be seen in Kirkland Museum’s Sculpture Gallery 10. The museum extends condolences to his wife Diane and their family and friends.

Other virtual exhibitions still on view include [*100 More, Because Less is a Bore!*](#), [*Art in Small Bytes 2.0*](#) and [*Buongiorno! Vance Kirkland in Italy*](#). Kirkland Museum's virtual exhibitions can be accessed at kirklandmuseum.org/virtual-exhibitions/.

Kirkland Museum remains temporarily closed but is working internally on establishing safe visitation plans to support the health and safety of our community, visitors, volunteers and staff. Reopening details will be released in the coming weeks.

For more information, please visit kirklandmuseum.org. A digital press kit is available at kirklandmuseum.org/about-us/press/.

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About Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art:

Kirkland Museum is dedicated to enriching lives by presenting art and design in a unique and approachable way. The Museum is rediscovering, documenting, collecting, preserving and exhibiting works from over 150 years, beginning in the mid-19th century, of Colorado's distinguished art history, international decorative art and the works of Vance Kirkland (1904–1981). The Museum serves the general public and scholars through exhibitions, the loan of works and public programs.