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News Release

The Metal Museum invites the public to vote for their favorite collection items in its first community-curated exhibition

Voters can participate through Google Forms and on social media



Robert Griffith, *Tripod Table*, 1996. Copper. Photo by Houston Cofield.



Karin Jones, *Edger*, 2009-10. 24K gold, fine silver, carbon steel, ash. Photo by Houston Cofield.

MEMPHIS (June 18, 2020) – For the first time in its 40-year history, the Metal Museum invites the public to choose their favorite Permanent Collection artworks in a special exhibition, *It Takes A Village: A Crowd-Curated Exhibition*. From July 13 to 17, voters can select their top picks from a different themed category each day. A lineup of 50 objects will be offered, including works by former Master Metalsmiths and *Tributaries* artists. The top 30 pieces will be displayed in a public exhibition from September 28, 2020 to March 14, 2021 in the Gasparrini Galleries. Voter comments, as well as their names or social media handles, will be shown alongside the winning works.

“For the first time since 1992, the Metal Museum will not showcase a Master Metalsmith as our featured fall exhibition,” states Carissa Hussong, Executive Director at the Metal Museum. “With the uncertainty of COVID-19’s impact on both the economy and our ability to remain open to the public through the end of 2020, we made the difficult decision to postpone Master Metalsmith Kim Cridler’s exhibition until 2021. In its place, we chose to organize an exhibition that could be both digital and physical, giving us the flexibility to respond to uncertain times. It has also given us time and space to reflect on what makes the Metal Museum such a special place – the community of artists and patrons that has built our collection, volunteered precious time to events and projects, and enabled the Museum to thrive through their gifts and continued support.”

Starting on July 13, participants will be able to access voting through the Metal Museum website, email, and social media. Voting categories will be released in five stages and all categories will remain open until July 24, 2020.

Voting Timeline:

Monday, July 13 – Forged Sculpture – 10 objects
Tuesday, July 14 – Cast Sculpture – 9 objects
Wednesday, July 15 – Art Jewelry – 10 objects
Thursday, July 16 – Vessels – 11 objects
Friday, July 17 – Functional Work – 10 objects
Friday, July 24 – Voting Ends

Exhibit Dates:

September 28, 2020 – March 14, 2021

About the Metal Museum

The Metal Museum is the only institution in the United States devoted exclusively to the preservation, promotion, and advancement of the art and craft of fine metalwork. This mission is achieved through four primary program areas – exhibitions, collections, studio practice, and community education and engagement. Programs are facilitated on the Museum grounds and at locations across the Mid-South. Located on 3.2 acres of historic property overlooking the Mississippi River, the Museum grounds include the main Museum building as well as the Metalworking Facilities, Library + Resource Center, and private artist residences. Learn more about the Museum and its programs by visiting our website at metalmuseum.org.

The Museum receives operating support from ArtsMemphis and the Tennessee Arts Commission. Programming support is received from Hyde Family Foundations, the Windgate Charitable Foundation, and hundreds of corporate, foundation, and individual supporters.

High-resolution images of artwork and exhibit graphics are available upon request. Please contact Kim Ward, Marketing Manager for the Metal Museum, at (901) 774-6380 or kimward@metalmuseum.org