

I.M.A.G.I.N.E. Peace Now! Exhibition Update

05_11_2016

Dear Exhibition Artists and Friends,

This is the current exhibition status for your information:

The deadline for receiving entry submissions for the Innovative **Merger of Art & Guns to Inspire New Expressions**, or '**I.M.A.G.I.N.E. Peace Now**' exhibition has now passed and the Artist list finalized. EVERYONE around the world (except for those that requested a hold due to travel plans) has received their disabled weapon. It is a really super group and I am so proud to have such amazing talent, diversity and scope. The comments have been overwhelmingly optimistic.

The big news is that we now have **TWO** amazing venues booked and an opening date set:

The show will open:

November 9, 2016- January 16, 2017

Wellington B. Gray Gallery at East Carolina University, Greenville, NC

To coincide with the **Annual ECU metals symposium**
(and Martin Luther King Day!)

I am grateful to Gerald Weckesser, Bob Ebendorf, Tom Braswell/ and the ECU Gallery Committee who supported the show.

Info: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cfac/soad/graygallery/>

2nd Venue:

February 25, 2017- June 10, 2017

Boston's Society of Arts and Crafts, the nation's oldest institution dedicated to the Crafts.
...in their new location in the Boston's Seaport District

Heartfelt thanks to Luiza DeCamargo (Assistant Curator) &
Fabio Fernández (Executive Director).

Info: <http://www.societyofcrafts.org/>

<http://www.societyofcrafts.org/support.asp>

Please see the downloadable Calendar for a sense of what the schedule is going to be looking like. Of course we still need to work out lots of logistics, but we are on their Exhibition Schedules.

Artists:

Your next deadline is: June 30th to upload artwork images and statements for the Jury Panel: **Emily Zilber**, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Ronald C. & Anita L. Wornick Curator of Contemporary Decorative Arts; **Monica Moses**, Editor in Chief, American Craft Magazine; **Shepard Fairey**, Artist, Designer and Activist; **Boris Bally**, Metalsmith. **I will be reminding Artists and sending a link for this process in a separate mail as that deadline approaches.** I am working on setting that up now with Calls For Entry (CAFÉ) which is operated by WESTAF.

We have one eager artist, **Randall Cleaver**, who has already completed his piece for the show (!!)
You can see his piece, share your thoughts, add comments and images on the FaceBook page dedicated to this exhibition: www.facebook.com/imaginepeacenow/

The next piece of news is that I am creating a **Kickstarter Campaign** to fund a publication which will feature the Exhibition Artwork selected by the Jurors, along with Artist statements, statements written by the Jurors and the history behind this exhibition. I am grateful to successful Campaign Creators **Karl Treen** and **Hannah Niswonger** for sharing their valuable insights on the process with me. **Monica Moses** has also kindly offered to edit content for the publication. We have enlisted the services of Product Photographer **Aaron Usher** and Graphic Designer **Erin McManus** to create consistent, professional images and layout.

As you may know, Kickstarter campaigns rely heavily on the incentive 'gifts' to backers, becoming an important aspect of the campaign. **Leslie LePere** and **Charlie King** have already jump-started a pin design prototype, to be produced in champlévé by **Sandy Parr** and **Erin McManus** has created a logo so we can offer logo-stamped keychains. The metal embossing stamp has already been ordered. Besides the actual Publication itself, one of the perks we could give to the most generous supporters will be a private 'walk through' with a few of the artists in the show. During the first two exhibition debuts I will be asking for volunteers willing to assist me with this. Please let me know if you might be interested in participating. I want to create an amazing, historic catalog that reflects the hard work all of the Artists are putting into this.

The show is gaining momentum, thanks mostly to all of your enthusiasm and hard work! I am SO VERY excited as all the various pieces come together beautifully. Feel free to share thoughts or comments with me.

PEACE!

-boris