



Mattress Factory

art you can get into

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Mattress Factory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mattress Factory Announces New Artists in Residence for Fall 2018 Exhibition

PITTSBURGH, PA (July 11, 2018) – Five artists have been chosen to present new work at the Mattress Factory this fall. The *Artists in Residence* exhibition will open September 21, 2018 in two of the museum's three buildings and will run through 2019.

Participating in *Artists in Residence* are William Earl Kofmehl III from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Laleh Mehran from Denver, Colorado; Gustavo and Otavio Pandolfo, better known as OSGEMEOS, from São Paulo, Brazil; Karina Smigla-Bobinski from Munich, Germany; and Christina A. West from Atlanta, Georgia. Each artist will create a new, site-specific, room-sized installation for the exhibition. Several installations will include opportunities for direct visitor interaction.

The opening reception will be held on Friday, September 21 at 6pm and is free and open to the public. For more information and images, please contact [Caitlin Harpster](mailto:caitlin@mattress.org).

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS
500 Sampsonia Way
September 21, 2018 – August 4, 2019

Known collectively as **OSGEMEOS** (Portuguese for “the twins”), Gustavo and Otavio Pandolfo are artists from São Paulo, Brazil, who have worked together for their whole lives. OSGEMEOS' work incorporates family portraits, dream imagery, graffiti, improvisation and images from both the folklore and the gritty urban environment of Brazil. Their ever-evolving creations have been displayed in solo and group shows, inside galleries, on the outside of buildings, on trains, on grain elevators, in Cuba, Chile, Italy, Spain, England, Lithuania, Japan and more than 60 countries. The twins have always aimed to make their work accessible, contributing to a sense of optimism in the midst of economic disparity. OSGEMEOS will create a new immersive installation using the entire fourth floor of the Mattress Factory's main building. In one room, a life-sized zoetrope will give life and motion to different characters.

Laleh Mehran is an Iranian-American artist based in Denver, Colorado. Her work explores issues around dissent and exile, and often includes sophisticated electronic elements. Mehran received her MFA from Carnegie Mellon University in Electronic Time-Based Media, and is now a Professor in the Emergent Digital Practices program at the University of Denver. Her work has been shown individually and collaboratively around the US and internationally. At the Mattress Factory, Mehran will install *The Interstitium*, a site-specific interactive work in the museum's lower level.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS



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**1414 Monterey Street
September 21, 2018 – April 8, 2019**

William Earl Kofmehl III is a sculptor and native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Kofmehl studied fine arts and civil engineering at Carnegie Mellon University before earning his MFA at Yale University. He has exhibited work around the United States and internationally, and has held adjunct professorial appointments at Carnegie Mellon University, the Pont-Aven School of Contemporary Art [France], University of Pittsburgh, Geneva College, and Robert Morris University. Kofmehl's work is composed of reclaimed cast bronze and aluminum alloys harvested from Pittsburgh's industrial history. As a multidisciplinary artist, Kofmehl looks at the intersections between factual information, historical events and fictitious stories while commenting on social roles and divisions of labor.

Karina Smigla-Bobinski is an intermedia artist based in Munich, Germany. Her work bridges kinetic art, drawing, video, installation, painting, performance and sculpture. She studied art and visual communication at the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, Poland and Munich, Germany, and recently was a Visiting Research Fellow at Bielefeld University's Institute for Advanced Study. Her work has been shown in 45 countries on 5 continents. Smigla-Bobinski's installation at the Mattress Factory will include her interactive ADA, described by the artist as an "analog interactive installation," "kinetic sculpture," and "post-digital drawing machine."

Christina A. West is a sculptor based in Atlanta, Georgia. She earned her MFA from Alfred University in 2006, and has since exhibited her work around the United States. West is an Associate Professor of Art at Georgia State University. Her installations consist of multiple sculptural figures placed together in a gallery space, with the color of the figures, the altered coloration of the space, and, sometimes, the direction of the figures' gazes suggesting relationships among the figures. The narratives suggested in West's work are open-ended and ambiguous.

SUPPORT

Generous support for *Artists in Residence* and related programming is provided by the Allegheny Regional Asset District, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Benter Foundation, EQT Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, Jack Buncher Family Foundation, James M. and Lucy K. Schoonmaker Foundation, Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, The Pittsburgh Foundation, PNC Charitable Trusts, Roy A. Hunt Foundation, Sheila Fortune Foundation; and the Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation. With special thanks to the Mattress Factory Board of Directors, Factory Fellows and museum members.

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About the Mattress Factory: Hailed as the best museum for installation art in the United States, the Mattress Factory invites visitors to experience "art you can get into." Over the past 41 years, the Mattress Factory has presented and commissioned new installation and performance works by over 750 artists, both established and emerging, who have challenged themselves and their audiences through the support of the museum's exceptional residency program. The Mattress Factory's outreach programs serve more than 30,000 students, teachers, adults, and families annually, and its activities as a



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visitor attraction, educator and employer continue to invigorate Pittsburgh's North Side. For more information, call 412.231.3169 or visit **mattress.org**.