



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 21, 2010**

## **INITIAL PIECES FOR "ART ON THE BELTLINE" SELECTED**

### **Temporary Art in the Atlanta BeltLine Corridor on exhibit from May through October 2010**

*Atlanta, GA-* The "Art on the BeltLine" working group today announced 30 visual and performance art installations for the first-ever temporary art exhibit in the Atlanta BeltLine corridor, which will run from May through October of 2010. The Atlanta BeltLine is an emerging system of parks, trails, transit and development that reclaims a 22-mile loop of historic and mostly unused rail around the center of Atlanta.

This spring, nearly eight miles of the BeltLine corridor will be open to pedestrians and off-road bicyclists via an interim trail. "Art on the BeltLine: Atlanta's New Public Place" will place visual and performance art installations, as well as historic site interpretation, at different points along the corridor to draw the public onto the BeltLine as Atlanta's new public realm.

"Art on the BeltLine" provides the color and dimension to what many have viewed as a purely engineering assignment," said Brian Leary, President and CEO of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. "We are engaging Atlanta's neighborhoods and dynamic arts community through a public art initiative that is giving the community a sense of pride and ownership of the BeltLine which will have a positive impact on the city for years to come."

"The City of Atlanta is excited about all of the artists and performers who were selected for this first temporary art exhibit on the BeltLine," said Camille Russell Love, director of City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs. "Our partnership with the Atlanta BeltLine will continue to bring new and innovative art to our citizens."

"We are extremely fortunate to have such a broad variety of performing artists – wonderful musicians, dancers, actors, storytellers – engage in the re-creation of Atlanta that is the BeltLine," said Priscilla Smith, Executive Director of Eyedrum. "The promise of living in a place where neighborhoods and communities are really connected, not only geographically, but culturally as well, is truly inspirational."

"While this project is clearly a testament to the Atlanta BeltLine's commitment to public art in Atlanta, I am most excited about the opportunity for some of Atlanta's emerging and lesser-known artists to participate in 'Art on the BeltLine,'" said Chris Appleton, Executive Director of WonderRoot. "The involvement of these artists and others is evidence of the inclusivity and forward thinking that the Atlanta BeltLine represents."

In early February, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI) and the City's Office of Cultural Affairs distributed a call for artists for this unique new art experience with the help of several organizations and institutions in Atlanta's arts community. A selection committee reviewed over 170 artist submissions during the month of March. The current list of "Art on the BeltLine" selections is below. More pieces will be added over the coming weeks as funds are raised to support them.

The "Art on the BeltLine" working group includes volunteers from BeltLine neighborhoods, historic preservationists and organizations such as WonderRoot, Eyedrum, SCAD, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc., the City's Office of Cultural Affairs, Atlanta City Council and the Fulton County Arts Council.

For more information about “Art on the BeltLine,” including volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, visit [art.BeltLine.org](http://art.BeltLine.org).

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**About the BeltLine:**

The Atlanta BeltLine is a \$2.8 billion redevelopment project that will provide a network of public parks, multi-use trails and transit along a historic 22-mile railroad corridor circling downtown and connecting many neighborhoods directly to each other. The BeltLine is the most comprehensive economic development effort ever undertaken in the City of Atlanta and among the largest, most wide-ranging urban redevelopment projects currently underway in the United States. Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI), formed by the Atlanta Development Authority, is the entity tasked with planning and executing the implementation of the BeltLine in partnership with other public and private organizations, including City of Atlanta departments. For more information on the Atlanta BeltLine, visit [www.BeltLine.org](http://www.BeltLine.org).

**About the Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA)**

The OCA, a division of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, was established in 1974 to encourage and support Atlanta's cultural resources. The initial mission was to solidify the role that arts and other cultural resources play in defining and enhancing the social fabric and quality of life of Atlanta citizens and visitors. Today the OCA is working to enhance Atlanta's reputation as a cultural destination. The OCA supports programs that educate and expose the public to a rich and diverse range of cultural expressions through a variety of initiatives. For more information on the City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs, visit [www.oaatlanta.com](http://www.oaatlanta.com).

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## **Art on the BeltLine – Performance Pieces**

### **Park Cofield – *Gyrastacus***

A site-specific performance based on 19th century hunting legends about a mythical creature called Gyrastacus. In a carnival environment, performers will discuss the beast, show sketches, tracks, and promote the unveiling of the great animal. In another performance the Gyrastacus will be unveiled and escape into the forest.

### **Carl DiSalvo, Jason Freeman, Michael Nitsche – *Urban Remix***

Sound project wherein recorded sounds along the BeltLine are mixed, composed, and realized as music. The tracks and sounds will also be available online for mixing via internet browser. Sound recording trips and a concert of the completed works are scheduled.

### **Akbar Imhotep, Adebisi Adeleke – *Story Messengers on the BeltLine***

Storytelling of original and African folktales told along the BeltLine. The stories' subjects will cover the railroads' development in Atlanta, how the BeltLine came to be, and where the BeltLine may be going in 50 years.

### **Gail Jordan – *Giwayen Mata***

An all-female African drum and dance troupe performing two, 45-minute concerts, covering several rhythm and dance styles across Africa in bright and colorful costumes. Many of these dances were traditionally only performed by men.

### **Klimchak – *Percussion Discussion***

Five percussion duets meant to echo the developing BeltLine. Using many styles and artists, Klimchak hopes to connect the natural and manmade environments.

### **Hormuz Minina – *Untitled***

A performance and installation piece which will beautify and transform the space to take the viewer along a path originally made by the homeless population now moved away.

### **Krewe of the Grateful Glutton - Chantelle Rytter – *Lantern Parade***

With lantern making workshops, a lantern parade will be organized to walk the BeltLine. The artists will produce 12 large lanterns while the workshops will cover smaller hand-held lanterns.

### **Jessica Sherwood – *Flute and Electronics Performance***

A performance by a flautist mixed with electronic music. The intention is to produce music evocative of nature.

### **Beacon Dance – *A Bountiful Feast***

A visual and performance art project by Beacon Dance, led by choreographer and dancer D. Patton White. Beginning with story circles the artists will gather oral histories and accounts to inform their movements and dialogue. A site sculpture will then be installed to be followed with an opening performance in June and a closing performance with de-installation in October.

## **Art on the BeltLine – Visual Installations**

### **Terri Dilling – *Burgeoning***

Terri Dilling proposes planting hundreds of paper flowers in a ring to represent the burgeoning of the BeltLine. Following the seasons of growth she will replace the flowers as they deteriorate and change colors to follow natural cycles.

### **Tae Earl-Jackson – *Untitled***

Tae Earl-Jackson will create a seating environment that gives the feeling of sitting in a pasture. Built from a refurbished dining chair, the area will provide a place for a sole BeltLine patron to find solace.

### **EVEREMAN – *EVEREMAN flowers and souvenir signs***

Placing EVEREMAN boards and works all along the BeltLine in addition to workshops held by the artist. These works include the EVEREMAN imagery as well as takeaways in the form of magnets and other small objects displaying EVEREMAN's logo.

### **Katie Hall – *Untitled***

A site-specific mosaic tile installation that reflects the environmental and aesthetic parameters of the site.

### **Etienne Jackson – *Reflections: Revolving Communities***

A linear, minimalist sculpture where a stainless steel panel reflects its surroundings; the captured reflection, organic and distorted, is then juxtaposed to the linear and rigid construction of the sculpture.

### **Emily Kempf – *Collabodoodle***

Several events where participants are invited to paint and doodle over mural boards measuring four by eight feet. Between each event, the boards will be displayed across the BeltLine. Each time the boards are painted over again and again resulting in a continuously evolving work.

### **Hense – *Untitled***

A prolific street artist and muralist, Hense has been producing street graffiti and murals for over 10 years. He proposes producing several murals, each celebrating street art and the BeltLine.

### **Susan Ker-Seymer – *Recurrence***

The spiral sculpture *Recurrence* made of repurposed fabrics and steel will be placed along with a spiral shaped garden to reinforce the space.

### **Arturo Lindsay – *Sanctuary on the BeltLine***

Creating a contemplative and meditative space, the sculpture will create an aesthetic experience. The bamboo structure will house a boulder with seating to encourage the viewer to reflect in the space and in the surrounding BeltLine.

### **Jeffrey Loy – *Stargazers***

Two 15-foot tall steel blooming trees, each with four steel flower pods with three illuminating globes per pod; the sculpture will engage the viewers during the day and night with programmed RGB LEDs functioning as a gateway to the BeltLine.

**Michi Meko – *Coexist***

Two 15 to 19 foot tall aluminum telescoping poles holding two colonies of Purple Martin gourd bird houses. The bird houses will have varying sized holes to try to accommodate different sized birds. The hope is that coexistence will be encouraged by way of the defined environment. The piece will operate as a gateway into the BeltLine.

**Corrina Sephora Mensoff – *BeltLine Be Green***

To encourage biking, recycling, and enjoying green space, the sculpture will show forged steel spirals wrapping a metal trash can as well as a bench. The spirals will also be woven in such a way as to create a bike rack.

**Jeff Morrison – *Cribbing***

Three hundred fifty railroad ties will be used to create a walled pathway for participants to navigate. It will provide for contemplation and discovery for the viewer as the interplay and repetition of the ties are used within the curved pathway.

**Spencer Murrill – *Forward March***

A graffiti inspired mural stylizing characters showing Atlanta's eclectic cultural scene. Done in black and white, the mural addresses the crisis of street art: how artists hold to what made the movement widespread but also how artistic traditions can inhibit creative discovery.

**Rod Pittam – *Untitled***

Murals printed on 48" x 96" banners to be placed along the west side of the BeltLine.

**Phil Proctor – *Untitled***

To define the composition and science of nature and energy through kinetic sculpture. Built from materials of structural purpose but with organic form and shape, the organic gesture of the moving sculpture will demonstrate man's desire to organize and define the chaos of the natural world.

**Darci Rodenhi – *Untitled***

A life-size diorama containing a fabricated tree, canvas wall, and railroads. As the work disintegrates it will blend itself into its background of the BeltLine.

**Sean Schwab – *Untitled***

Murals which are meant to comment on the role of street art beautifying their communities and reminding their audience of the BeltLine history.

**Charlie Smith – *Transformational Transportation***

Symbolizing the forward thinking progress of transportation for the city of Atlanta, the sculptures serve as markers, tunnels and checkpoints for the human entity in the new BeltLine corridor.

**Lisa Tuttle - *Poetic Pathway***

Several lecterns will house poems composed about specific sites, neighborhoods, persons, or experiences in Atlanta.

**Arseni Zaitzev – *TiredOUT***

A pathway and structure created by organizing and stacking the tires found on the BeltLine into an organized structure. The recycling creates a navigable structure for the participant as well as a gateway and introduction into the BeltLine corridor.