

BRIDGE 13 EXHIBITION SERIES OPENS AT SCC JANUARY 23, 2015

PITTSBURGH, PA—December 15, 2014—The Society for Contemporary Craft (SCC) kicks-off its new season with the opening of its biennial *Bridge Exhibition Series*. Showcasing three solo exhibitions, *Bridge 13* will present an installation of colossal beasts made from a mash-up of two by fours and discarded bedclothes, blankets, couch cushions, knit Afghans and other repurposed materials by Elisabeth Higgins O'Connor, a feature of etched and painted porcelain sculptures by Jason Walker that depict mashed up combinations of animals and natural habitats with mechanical and industrial elements and a wearable collection of surreal jewelry—made from remnants of antiques, crustaceans, teeth, and more—by internationally renown metalsmith, Keith Lo Bue. These three solo exhibitions highlight the high quality craft being produced by contemporary artists today. The *Bridge Exhibition Series* opens with a public reception on Friday, January 23, from 5:30 to 8 pm and continues through August 22, 2015.

First presented in 1988, the *Bridge Exhibition Series* was established to heighten the public's awareness of the powerful work being produced by contemporary artists, and to help break down the traditional barriers between the fields of craft and fine art. Twenty seven years later, the division between craft and fine art has nearly disappeared, allowing contemporary craft artists to exhibit and be viewed in the broader context of the visual arts. Over the course of the series, SCC has presented solo exhibitions by 74 contemporary craft artists. Highlighting techniques in a broad range of media including clay, metal, fiber, wood and glass, the series has featured such nationally recognized artists as Sergei Isupov (Virginia), Bruce Metcalf (Pennsylvania), Thomasin Grim (California), Stephen Whittlesey (Massachusetts), Amy Sabrina (Minnesota), Po Shun Leong (California), John Garrett (New Mexico), Norma Minkowitz (Connecticut) and Michael Olszewski (Philadelphia) among others. To document the history of the series, brochures, containing an essay, biographical information and photographs, are produced on each artist for each exhibition. Brochures for the *Bridge 13 Exhibition Series* are available at SCC or by calling 412.261.7003.

Bridge 13: Keith Lo Bue, Elisabeth Higgins O'Connor, Jason Walker is made possible by the Allegheny Regional Asset District, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the Elizabeth R. Raphael Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, Ted Rowland, BNSF Foundation, Ferrin Contemporary and other generous donors.

SCC is a visual arts organization that presents the work of regional, national and international contemporary artists working in craft media (clay, fiber, glass, metal, wood and found objects), and as such is one of only a few organizations in the United States dedicated to this art form. SCC's main exhibition gallery, education center and store are located at 2100 Smallman Street in the Strip District. Hours are Monday through Saturday 10 am to 5 pm. Exhibitions and informal, hands-on art activities are always free to the public. For more information, visit www.contemporarycraft.org.

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Links

Keith Lo Bue: lobue-art.com

Jason Walker: jasonwalkerceramics.com

Elisabeth Higgins O'Connor: elisabethhigginsconnor.net

Ferrin Contemporary: ferrincontemporary.com