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| **NKG_media_alert_header.jpg** | Contact: Stephanie Sun, Marketing Manager  [ssun@contemporarycraft.org](mailto:ssun@contemporarycraft.org)  412.261.7003 x29  www.contemporarycraft.org |

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Transformation 10 Exhibition Explores the Endless Potential of Found Materials**

*Innovative Art**Exhibition that highlights exceptional artists from US and abroad*

PITTSBURGH, PA – July 30, 2018 – “One man's trash is another man's treasure,” is the perfect idiom for Contemporary Craft’s upcoming biennial juried exhibition - [*Transformation 10: Contemporary Works in Found Materials*, *The Elizabeth R. Raphael Founder’s Prize Exhibition*](http://contemporarycraft.org/exhibition/transformation-10/), which will be on view in CC’s Strip District main galleries from September 14, 2018 to March 23, 2019. Featuring 26 national and international artists who have been selected as finalists for the 2017 [Elizabeth R. Raphael Founder’s Prize](http://contemporarycraft.org/exhibitions/elizabeth-r-raphael-founders-prize/), *Transformation 10* will showcase newly created, innovative artworks that incorporate found materials in unexpected ways and challenge notions about commonplace objects, found materials, and contemporary art. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

During the run of *Transformation 10*, a free, self-guided, hands-on art activity designed by exhibiting artist Michelle Stitzlein, will be available in the Drop-In Studio during public hours. The Drop-In Studio offers a contemplative space to talk about the exhibition and explore artists’ work through hands-on making. Companion programming will also include “The Space Between”, a salon-style speaker series that pairs exhibiting artists with local thought-leaders to discuss the role of creativity. The date and time for The Space Between will be announced in the coming weeks.

The winner and two honorable mention honorees of the Raphael Founder’s Prize will be recognized at the *Transformation 10* opening reception on Friday, September 14, 2018 from 5:30 – 8 PM. The winning artist will receive a $5,000 cash prize in support of his/her artistic exploration. As part of the opening weekend, a “Dialogue with the Artists” will be held on Saturday, September 16 from 12 – 2 PM, and visitors can talk informally with the exhibiting artists about their work and creative process.

For more information about the Raphael Founder’s Prize and *Transformation 10* or high-res images of exhibiting artwork, please contact Stephanie Sun at [ssun@contemporarycraft.org](mailto:ssun@contemporarycraft.org) or at 412-261-7003 x22.

EXHIBITION FUNDERS

*Transformation 10: Contemporary Works in Found Materials*, The Elizabeth R. Raphael Founder's Prize are made possible by Alexandra and Catherine Raphael, the Allegheny Regional Asset District, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the Elizabeth R. Raphael Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation. Media sponsored by NEXTpittsburgh. (As of July 2018)

ABOUT TRANSFORMATION EXHIBITION SERIES

The *Transformation* series, established in 1997 as a biennial juried exhibition, focuses on contemporary craft media – glass, wood, metal, clay, and found materials – in rotation. The exhibition seeks out an international selection of artists redefining their medium to create work that is challenging and thought provoking - inviting us all to reconsider our notion of “craft.”

ABOUT CONTEMPORARY CRAFT

Presenting contemporary art in craft materials by regional, national, and international artists since 1971, CC offers cutting edge exhibitions focusing on multicultural diversity and perspectives, as well as a range of studio workshops, community outreach programs, and a store specializing in contemporary craft. Through its mission of engaging the public in creative experiences through contemporary craft, CC offers meaningful art opportunities for 135,000 people a year.

CC is located at 2100 Smallman Street in the Strip District of Pittsburgh, PA. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM. Exhibition and informal, hands-on art activities in the Drop-In Studio are always free to the public. Contemporary Craft is committed to making its exhibitions, programs, and services accessible to the public. For questions related to accessible accommodations, please contact us. For more information, visit <http://www.contemporarycraft.org> or call 412.261.7003.

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