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CONTEMPORARY CRAFT PURCHASES HOUSE FOR NATIONAL ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM

PITTSBURGH, PA (FEBRUARY 2024) – Contemporary Craft (CC) is pleased to announce the purchase of a house for its National Artist-in-Residence program. For the past year, Contemporary Craft has been leasing a house with the option to purchase, as the organization piloted its first national residency program.

Within the past year, artists have traveled to Pittsburgh from locales around the globe, including Sweden, North Carolina, New York, and California, and have stayed in the house while creating in the Contemporary Craft studios or assisting with their exhibition installations.

The intention of the artist residency program is to support artists at any stage of their career with free housing and access to fully equipped studios for either a one-month or six-month residency. Their time in Pittsburgh includes an artist stipend, staff support, and the opportunity to interface with the public while creating a body of work. The program is open to artists working in a craft medium that can be supported by the studios at Contemporary Craft, such as metalsmithing, jewelry, fibers, weaving, paper and book arts, small ceramics, and small-scale woodworking.

“We’re grateful to those who have supported us throughout this pilot year,” says Executive Director, Rachel Rearick. “Not only do residency programs offer artists an opportunity to immerse themselves in their artwork and challenge their practices; they also provide a lifeline to our organization to more intimately learn what is happening in the field of craft, beyond our city.”

Artists that have stayed in the house during the pilot year include Yael Braha, Sarah Byrd, Erika Diamond, Susie Ganch, Carl Johnson, matt lambert, Adrien Segal, and Jason Stein.

Support for the National Artist-in-Residence program at Contemporary Craft during the first year has been provided by the George G Fund, Windgate Foundation, and Arts, Equity, & Education Fund.

About Contemporary Craft

Presenting contemporary art in craft materials by regional, national, and international artists since 1971, Contemporary Craft offers cutting edge exhibitions focusing on multicultural diversity and contemporary art, as well as a range of artist-led studio workshops, community engagement programs, and a store featuring work by top artists from across the country. Located at 5645 Butler Street in Pittsburgh, PA, Contemporary Craft’s exhibitions are free to the public.