



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fifteen regional artists embark on a summer-long project to reimagine the Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark site along the Monongahela River near Braddock, Pennsylvania. *Alloy Pittsburgh* will kick-off on June 10th with a free public lecture series. Presenters include internationally recognized installation artist Ann Hamilton, Philadelphia based author, photographer and landscape design consultant Rick Darke, local historian and spoken-word artist Chuck Lanigan, and sculptor and Industrial Arts Cooperative President Tim Kaulen. All lectures will begin at 7:00pm and are free and open to the public.

Monday, June 10	Rick Darke	Frick Fine Arts Auditorium
Tuesday, June 11	Chuck Lanigan	The Pump House
Wednesday, June 12	Ann Hamilton	Braddock Community Center
Thursday, June 13	Tim Kaulen	Concept Art Gallery

The *Alloy Pittsburgh* Public Lecture Series compliments research activities occurring on site and is intended to establish a forum where artists and communities come together to explore the creative reuse of Pittsburgh's post-industrial landscape.

Alloy Pittsburgh was co-founded by Pittsburgh artists Sean Derry and Chris McGinnis and developed in collaboration with the Kipp Gallery at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area. The project is conceived as a laboratory where 15 emerging artists from the Pittsburgh region will create temporary site-based artworks at the Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark. The completed projects will open to the public on September 28, 2013.

Derry and McGinnis hope to build upon Pittsburgh's industrial legacy by formalizing an ongoing collaborative program that will foster new community partnerships, celebrate novel ways of reimagining familiar places, and advance the careers of emerging artists from the region.

CONTACTS:

Sean Derry, Co-founder

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Chris McGinnis, Co-founder

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www.alloypittsburgh.blogspot.com



“It will be an event of enormous significance as we move forward from our century of heavy steel into a very different post-industrial century. – a field in which every aspect of “heavy steel”, the physical presence in our river valleys of these vast structures, the lives and cultures of immigrant workers and their families, the role of steel in the evolution of the nation – becomes the grist for art.”

David Lewis, *Founder of Urban Design Associates*

“While we think of preserving artifacts from our industrial heritage as a means to commemorate our past, we should also recognize that significant historical structures such as the Carrie Furnaces can become in the hands of creative people part of a strategy to rethink, revitalize, and celebrate the communities left in the wake of the turn away of the industrial economy.”

Edward Muller, *University of Pittsburgh*

“The Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark provides the perfect laboratory and backdrop for this conclave of emerging artists to engage the surrounding communities by reimagining these industrial places.”

Jeff Leber, *Rivers of Steel Heritage Area*

STATEMENT

For nearly a century a collection of hot blast furnaces known as the Carrie Furnaces transformed raw materials into molten iron. The 135 acre Carrie Furnace site was coordinated to maximize iron production. With the quieting of the furnaces in the late 1970’s, the principle force that defined the site vanished. Without an industrial purpose the Carrie Furnaces were slowly transformed by artists and others. Inverting its prior purpose, the abandoned site was reimagined as a depository of raw materials. Instead of rock and ore, individuals harvested cable, channel and plate.

With the formation of the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, efforts are underway to preserve the remaining Carrie Furnaces as an important artifact of Pittsburgh’s industrial history. While the Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark still retains an abundance of “raw materials”, it is far more important than the value of this scrap. The magnificence of the site can be partially attributed to the history imbedded in the furnaces two inch thick steel walls. Despite the fact that the furnaces last fired decades ago, the complex retains a compelling metaphoric energy. We hope to utilize this residual heat as a catalyst for the development and presentation of a collection of temporary site-based art works. Projects will examine the site’s history, current condition and possible futures without permanently transforming the characteristics of the Carrie Furnaces.

Alloy Pittsburgh engages additional regional artists as a means of promoting the inclusive exploration of the Carrie Furnace National Historic Landmark site. We believe in the necessity for participation, dialogue and action within the post-industrial landscape. It is our hope that bringing these works of art to life creates a space of possibility at a site once defined by the singular pursuit of iron.

Sean Derry & Chris McGinnis

www.alloypittsburgh.blogspot.com



FACTS

ALLOY PITTSBURGH FREE PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

- Monday, June 10 **Rick Darke**, *Author, Photographer and Landscape Design Consultant*
Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, 7:00 pm
650 Schenley Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15260
- Tuesday, June 11 **Chuck Lanigan**, *Historian and Spoken-word artist*
The Pump House, 7:00 pm
880 E Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120
- Wednesday, June 12 **Ann Hamilton**, *Artist*
Braddock Community Center, 7:00 pm
416 Library Street, Braddock, PA 15104
- Thursday, June 13 **Tim Kaulen**, *Sculptor & President Industrial Arts Cooperative*
Concept Art Gallery, 7:00 pm
1031 S Braddock Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15218

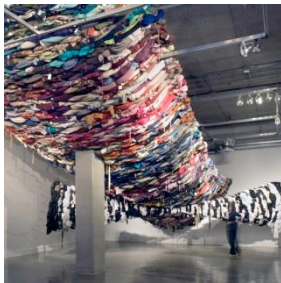
EXHIBITIONS

- Friday June 14, 2013 **Prelude**, Previous Work by Alloy Pittsburgh Artists
Unsmoke Systems, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
1137 Braddock Avenue, Braddock, PA 15104
- Opening Reception, June 14, 2013
Exhibition runs June 8 - 28, 2013
- September 28, 2013 **Alloy Pittsburgh**, Temporary Site-Based Artworks
Opening Reception, Saturday, September 28, 2013
Exhibition runs September 28 – October 26, 2013
Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark

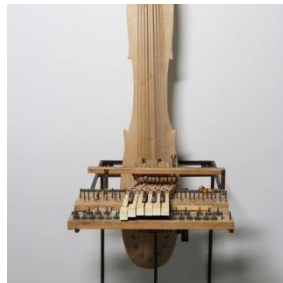
ARTISTS

Edith Abeyta, Carl Bajandas, Laurie Barnes, Michelle Colbaugh, Logan Five, Kyla Groat
Anika Hirt, Ryan Keene, Anna Mikolay, Amber Niedomys, Meghan Olson, Will Schlough,
Emily Sciulli, Kara Skylling, Dan Wilcox

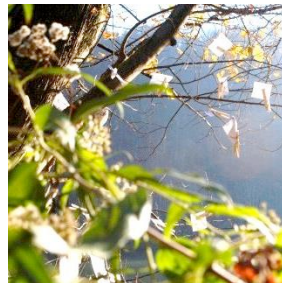
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Edith Abeyta



Carl Bajandas



Laurie Barnes



Michelle Colbaugh



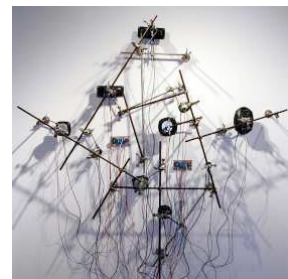
Logan Five



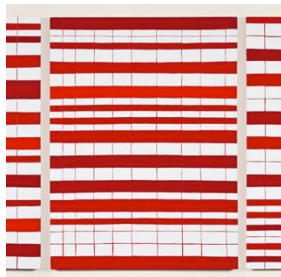
Kyla Groat



Anika Hirt



Ryan Keene



Anna Mikolay



Amber Niedomys



Meghan Olson



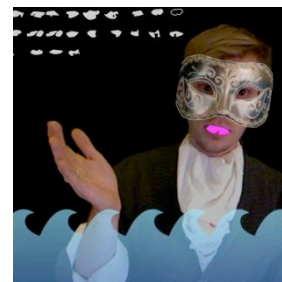
Will Schlough



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