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Caption: Leonardo Drew, CPP6, edition 5/15 (detail), 2015, flatbite toner transfer with hardground etching, 2018.338

Frost Art Museum FIU presents “Leonardo Drew: Cycles”

The exhibition is curated by Loretta Yarlow, Director of the University Museum of Contemporary Art, UMass, Amherst and organized by the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation.

MIAMI (Aug. xx, 2021) — The [Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU](http://www.frost.fiu.edu) will present “Leonardo Drew: Cycles, from the Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation,” from Sept. 1 until Nov. 17, 2021. Drew transforms cotton paper pulp and pigment into powerfully large yet fragile prints that test the versatility of the medium. Some resemble maps of geographical landscapes like populated cities, forests, and urban wastelands viewed from above, while others are reminiscent of the night sky and distant galaxies. Evocative of fire, soil, sky, and water, there are strong perceptions in both microcosmic and macrocosmic scale.

Organic forms within the composition undulate with various textures and luminosities, pushing the boundaries of its materiality. Much like his sculptural installations in wood, Drew starts with

a raw material, transforming and reconstructing its essence until it resembles debris. Through this process, the artist articulates diverse histories of chaos, and cycles of birth and death.

“Drew reimagines form. His work inspires questions about varied topographies and the negotiation of space in our daily lives. This exhibition offers a rare look into the artist’s expansive approach to printmaking,” said the museum’s chief curator, Amy Galpin.

Also on view, the artist’s sculptures address social issues and the cyclical nature of existence. Using a variety of off-the-shelf materials like wood, cardboard, paint, paper, plastic, rope and string combined with natural materials such as branches or tree trunks, Drew transforms these objects with labor-intense manipulations that mimic natural processes of oxidation, burning, and weathering.

“*Cycles* feels especially timely as we observe how humans have now altered the environment. Drew’s early years of scavenging for discarded materials to reuse and his focus in this body of work on the concept of cycles — from the cyclical nature of life to the effects of erosion — relate to this part of the world, where nature and the weather are dominant forces in our daily lives,” said museum director Jordana Pomeroy. “We are grateful to Jordan D. Schnitzer and his family foundation for making Leonardo Drew’s body of work *Cycles* available to FIU and the Miami-Dade community.”

Drew’s works are found in the esteemed collections of [Crystal Bridges](#), the [Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden](#), the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) and in the [Rubell Family Collection](#) in Miami.

“When you meet Leonardo Drew – you are transformed by his energy, his smile, and his passion - passion about life! Then, when you see his art, you instantly know why this man is a genius. He takes wood, fabric, and shingles, you name it – and transforms the material into the most amazing sculpture one can imagine. His works on paper are exquisite. He transforms paper into 3 dimensional experiences of art exploration! Thank you Leonardo for letting all of us who view your art and your magical journey,” said Jordan D. Schnitzer.

About the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation

At age 14, Jordan D. Schnitzer bought his first work of art from his mother’s Portland, Oregon contemporary art gallery, evolving into a lifelong avocation as collector. He began collecting contemporary prints and multiples in earnest in 1988. Today, the collection exceeds 19,000 works and includes many of today’s most important contemporary artists. It has grown to be one of the country’s largest private print collections. He generously lends work from his collection to qualified institutions. The Foundation has organized over 110 exhibitions and has had art exhibited at over 160 museums. Mr. Schnitzer is also President of [Harsch Investment Properties](#), a privately owned real estate investment company based in Portland, Oregon, owning and managing office, multi-tenant industrial, multi-family and retail properties in six western states. For more information about the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, please visit jordanschnitzer.org.

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About the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU:

One of the largest art museums in Florida, the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University was founded in 1977 and is the Smithsonian Affiliate in Miami. The museum's mission is three-fold: to be a campus resource for the entire FIU community; to offer interdisciplinary training in the arts for the next generation of artists and art historians; and to serve as a premier cultural destination for the residents of Miami, and visitors. The Frost is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is located on the FIU MMC Campus at 10975 SW 17 Street. Open Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m., and Sunday noon - 4:45 p.m. Closed on Mondays and most legal holidays. The Sculpture Park is open every day. Admission to the museum is always free. For more information, visit frost.fiu.edu.

About FIU:

Florida International University is Miami's public research university, focused on student success. According to U.S. News and World Report, FIU has 26 top-50 rankings in the nation among public universities and Washington Monthly Magazine ranks FIU among the top 20 public universities contributing to the public good and No. 12 for social mobility. FIU is a top U.S. research university (R1), with more than \$200 million in annual expenditures. FIU ranks 15th in the nation among public universities for patent production, which drives innovation, and is one of the institutions that helps make Florida the top state for higher education. The Next Horizon fundraising campaign is furthering FIU's commitment to providing students Worlds Ahead opportunities. Today, FIU has two campuses and multiple centers, and supports artistic and cultural engagement through its three museums: Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, the Wolfsonian-FIU, and the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. FIU is a member of Conference USA, with more than 400 student-athletes participating in 18 sports. The university has awarded more than 330,000 degrees to many leaders in South Florida and beyond. For more information about FIU, visit www.fiu.edu.