

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 14, 2019

Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA) / Contact : Kristan Kennedy / kristan@pica.org

The Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA) is pleased to present *THROUGH AND THROUGH AND THROUGH*, a major solo exhibition of new sculptures by Gordon Hall. Opening June 8, 2019 and closing August 10, 2019.

Saturday, June 8, 2019

Preview* / 11am-12pm / *OPEN TO PRESS AND PICA MEMBERS ONLY*

Gallery Walk-Through** / 12:30pm / with Gordon Hall and PICA Curators Roya Amirsoleymani and Kristan Kennedy. / ** OPEN TO ALL**

Commissioned by PICA and curated by Roya Amirsoleymani, Artistic Director and Curator of Public Engagement, and Kristan Kennedy, Artistic Director and Curator of Visual Art, *THROUGH AND THROUGH AND THROUGH* marks the first solo show of Hall's work on the West Coast. A suite of 18 new sculptures coexist in the gallery with 18 distinct performance events occurring twice per hour every Saturday and at other unannounced times throughout the exhibition's run. In partnership with the artist, PICA will release *OVER-BELIEFS: Gordon Hall Collected Writing 2011-2018*, concurrent with the exhibition and in collaboration with the print and publishing effort Container Corps. A book release and reading will take place on June 10, 2019. All events are ADA accessible. Gallery walk-through and book release ASL interpreted.

Funded in part by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and Sarah Miller Meigs.

The artist will be present for public programs scheduled from June 8-10 and in Portland, Oregon from May 29-June 11. They are available for interviews. Please contact Kristan Kennedy / kristan@pica.org for availability, press images, and other questions.

*******EVENT DETAILS AND EXHIBITION STATEMENT TO FOLLOW*******

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION / DATES / TIMES

Exhibition Title

*THROUGH
AND THROUGH
AND THROUGH*

Artist

Gordon Hall

Location

PICA, 15 NE HANCOCK ST, PORTLAND, OREGON 97212

Open Hours

June 8 - August 10, 2019 / W-F 12-6pm / S 12-4pm / FREE / OPEN TO ALL

Opening Reception / Public Programs

June 8, 2019

Press & Member Preview / 11am-12pm / FREE / Invite-Only

Opening / 12-4pm / FREE / OPEN TO ALL

Gallery walk through with Gordon Hall and Curators / 12:30-1:30pm

FREE / OPEN TO ALL

Performances / Approximately every 20 minutes

June 10, 2019

Book Release and Reading with Gordon Hall / 6:30pm / FREE / OPEN TO ALL

June 8 - August 10, 2019

Brief performances will take place at PICA on June 13, July 11, and August 8 from 4-6pm and twice per hour every Saturday from 12-4pm throughout the show's run.

FREE / OPEN TO ALL

***** EXHIBITION STATEMENT TO FOLLOW*****

The logo for PICA (Portland International Center for the Arts) features the word "PICA" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are positioned above a thick, horizontal yellow bar that spans the width of the text.

THROUGH AND THROUGH AND THROUGH

Gordon Hall's eighteen distinct sculptures, made from cast concrete, poplar, colored pencil, hand-dyed fabric, and carved brick, sit together quietly at the center of PICA's expansive warehouse. The works deliver themselves to us slowly, requesting looking and re-looking, understood over time through a subtle language of material, color, and the relations between the objects' constituent parts. Like a pair of clasped hands, Hall's precisely made sculptures turn inwards and towards one another, simultaneously inviting and withholding.

Hall's objects trouble our efforts to definitively read them, preferring to perpetually waver between adjacent identities. They feel familiar yet strange, made up of the edges of recognizable things—benches, shims, a basin, turned table legs, a saddle, tools. These objects ask to be used, but are not clear about how or by whom. Through this potentiality, they are rendered anew, and slightly perverted. We watch the sculptures as they watch us. Together, our usefulness is called into question. What can we learn about our bodies, and the bodies of these objects, from this adjacency?

Correlating with the sculptures, eighteen short movement scores choreographed by Hall will be performed by the artist and a revolving cast of Portland-based performers throughout the run of the exhibition. These performances will take place even if the gallery is empty. Unlike props, the sculptures are the directors, dictating what takes place on and around them. There is a grammar to their shapes, waiting to be felt and spoken. Those who spend time with this family of things are interlocutors engaged in the question, "What does it mean to be witnessed?"

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OVER-BELIEFS: Gordon Hall Collected Writing, 2011-2018, published on the occasion of *THROUGH AND THROUGH AND THROUGH*, is an edited survey of the artist's essays, interviews, and performance scripts from this formative stage of their career, introduced by the exhibition's curators, Roya Amirsoleymani and Kristan Kennedy, and with a reflection from Sarah Workneh, Co-Director of Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture. The book was edited by Spencer Byrne-Seres, PICA's Exhibitions Director, with a cover design by Dante Carlos and book design and printing by Gary Robbins / Container Corps. A publication release and reading by Hall will take place at PICA on June 10, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

In conjunction with the exhibition, an open edition of three cast concrete table-top sculptures by Hall titled *Three Paperweights (Mug, Knob, and Claw)* will be available for sale through the run of the exhibition. Proceeds will support the exhibition and publication.

THROUGH AND THROUGH AND THROUGH is curated by Roya Amirsoleymani, Artistic Director, Curator of Public Engagement and Kristan Kennedy, Artistic Director, Curator of Visual Art.