

PRESS RELEASE

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SAM'S OLYMPIC SCULPTURE PARK DEBUTS NEW SITE-SPECIFIC WORK BY BRAZILIAN ARTIST REGINA SILVEIRA

Large-scale installation *Octopus Wrap* envelops entire building in a surreal tire tracks pattern



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SEATTLE, WA - SAM's Olympic Sculpture Park presents *Regina Silveira: Octopus Wrap* (May 11, 2019–March 8, 2020), a new site-specific installation for the PACCAR Pavilion. Inspired by the park's location at the intersection of several busy thoroughfares, *Octopus Wrap* envelops the building's walls in a mind-bending tire track pattern that questions our perception of reality. This is the first time the internationally celebrated artist has shown work in Seattle.

Brazilian artist Regina Silveira is renowned for her illusionistic interventions on buildings, city streets, and public parks. These surreal disruptions of public spaces have included exaggerated shadows, swarms of insects, dense clusters of footprints, and nocturnal light projections of animal tracks wandering across building façades. Silveira started her career in the 1950s and has become one of the country's most revered artists, creating works that investigate the representation of reality and the power of art to transform.

For this installation, Silveira has wrapped the PACCAR Pavilion's floor, walls, and windows in an improbable pattern of overlapping tire tracks that from a distance recall the arms of an octopus. The installation resolves on the building's interior mural wall in five toy motorcycles driven by five tiny drivers. Taking the park's location—zigzagging around busy city streets, railroad tracks, and waterways—as inspiration, *Octopus Wrap* upends the viewer's perception of a well-known space, disrupting its austerity with boisterous visual noise.

"Silveira is an extraordinary artist who has inspired several generations of artists in Brazil," says Catharina Manchanda, SAM's Jon and Mary Shirley Curator of Contemporary Art. "Her artistic gesture is political in the sense that she aims to disrupt the familiar. Irreverent and fantastical, her immersive installation is like a noisy parade that stops us in our tracks."

ABOUT REGINA SILVEIRA

Regina Silveira was born in 1939 in Porto Alegre, Brazil. She received her Ph.D. in 1984 at Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil and has taught there since 1974.



Noteworthy recent solo shows include *EXIT*, Museu Brasileiro da Escultura – MuBE, São Paulo, Brazil, 2018; *Todas As Escadas*, Instituto Figueiredo Ferraz, Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, 2018; *Crash*, Museu Oscar Niemeyer, Curitiba, Brazil, 2015; and *1001 Dias e Outros Enigmas*, Fundação Iberê Camargo, Porto Alegre Brazil, 2011. Silveira’s recent group exhibitions include *Mixed Realities*, Kunst Museum, Stuttgart, Germany, 2018; *Imprint*, Academy of Fine Arts, Warsaw, Poland, 2017; *Future Shock*, Site Santa Fe, Santa Fe, USA, 2017; *Radical Women in Latin America*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, USA, 2017; and *Consciência Cibernética [?]*, Itaú Cultural, São Paulo, Brazil, 2017.

Silveira has taken part in over 13 international biennials and received noteworthy grants including Prêmio MASP (2013), Prêmio APCA for her trajectory (2011) and Prêmio Fundação Bunge (2009). The artist also received grants from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation (1990), Pollock-Krasner Foundation (1993) and Fulbright Foundation (1994).

Photo credits: Installation view of *Regina Silveira: Octopus Wrap* at the Olympic Sculpture Park. © Seattle Art Museum. Photo: Natali Wiseman. Installation view of *Regina Silveira: Octopus Wrap* at the Olympic Sculpture Park. © Seattle Art Museum. Photo: John Reed.

ABOUT SEATTLE ART MUSEUM

As the leading visual art institution in the Pacific Northwest, SAM draws on its global collections, powerful exhibitions, and dynamic programs to provide unique educational resources benefiting the Seattle region, the Pacific Northwest, and beyond. SAM was founded in 1933 with a focus on Asian art. By the late 1980s the museum had outgrown its original home, and in 1991 a new 155,000-square-foot downtown building, designed by Venturi, Scott Brown & Associates, opened to the public. The 1933 building was renovated and reopened as the Asian Art Museum in 1994. SAM’s desire to further serve its community was realized in 2007 with the opening of two stunning new facilities: the nine-acre Olympic Sculpture Park (designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architects)—a “museum without walls,” free and open to all—and the Allied Works Architecture designed 118,000-square-foot expansion of its main, downtown location, including 232,000 square feet of additional space built for future expansion. The Olympic Sculpture Park and SAM’s downtown expansion celebrated their tenth anniversary in 2017.

From a strong foundation of Asian art to noteworthy collections of African and Oceanic art, Northwest Coast Native American art, European and American art, and modern and contemporary art, the strength of SAM’s collection of approximately 25,000 objects lies in its diversity of media, cultures, and time periods.