# The **Heckscher Museum** of Art

CELEBRATING 100

1920 - 2020

The Heckscher Museum of Art 2 Prime Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743 631.380.3230 www.Heckscher.org Contact Jill Rowen Rowen@Heckscher.org 631.805.2334

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 2020

The Heckscher Museum Reopens August 1, 2020

Long Island's Best, Amanda Valdez: Piecework, and Balancing Act: Three Sculptures by William King on View!

Advanced Registration and Timed Ticketing Opens to the Public July 27!

Huntington, NY -- The Heckscher Museum of Art will reopen on August 1, 2020!

To ensure all visitors' safety, admission to the Museum will be by advance reservation and timed ticketing only. Visitors can go to Heckscher.org or call 631.380.3230 for tickets.

Visitors will be able to enjoy the incredible artwork from Long Island's Best: Young Artists at the Heckscher Museum and Amanda Valdez: Piecework! Through Heckscher.org, the Museum had presented these exhibitions virtually.

New installation: *Balancing Act: Three Sculptures by William King.* The mini-exhibition features whimsical works by Long Island sculptor William King (1925-2015). King was known for his ability to breathe life into static sculptures, especially stainless steel pieces that at first glance look precariously balanced. (*Image: William King, Us, 1996, Brushed stainless steel.*)



"This is the first time that all three of King's sculptures from the Museum's collection are on view together," noted Karli Wurzelbacher, Curator. "The themes they address are central to our shared human experience and strike me as especially timely. The need for social distancing means that the gatherings and activities that usually take place in the Museum's lobby are on pause. I'm thrilled that King's freewheeling figures can populate the space and greet our visitors!"

New modified hours, updated admission policies, and complete health and safety guidelines can be found at Heckscher.org/reopening. Frequent cleaning schedules are in place and the Museum will be a touch-free experience. For the time being, admission will be free.

For ticketing information go to Heckscher.org/reopening or call 631.380.3230

Questions? Email info@heckscher.org or call 631.380.3230 for ticketing and information.

#### On View:

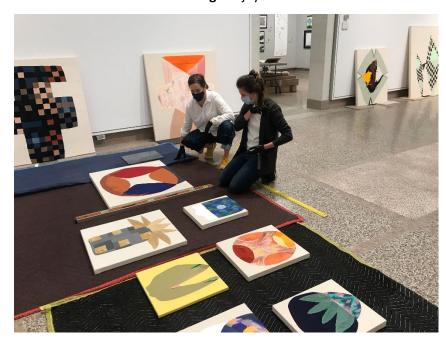
## Long Island's Best: Young Artists at The Heckscher Museum

Long Island's Best, the most prestigious juried exhibition for high school students on Long Island received 388 submissions from 58 schools across Suffolk and Nassau Counties. Jurors chose 100 impressive works in honor of the Museum's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This is the only exhibition of its kind on Long Island that provides students the unparalleled opportunity to show their artwork in a prominent museum. **More on Heckscher.org:** Enjoy video interviews with select

Long Island's Best students, as well as the virtual awards ceremony for winners.

#### Amanda Valdez: Piecework

Contemporary artist Amanda Valdez creates brilliantly colored, patterned, and textured abstract paintings by cutting, sewing, dying, painting, and embroidering canvas and other cloth. Featuring 20 paintings, including several that are among the artist's largest, this exhibition explores Valdez's engagement with the histories of abstraction and "women's work" with fiber. More on Heckscher.org: Explore the exhibition brochure, read Curator Karli Wurzelbacher's essay about the artist, and Valdez's essay on her work and process. (Image: Artist Amanda Valdez and Curator Karli Wurzelbacher prepare for the Museum reopening.)



## **Balancing Act: Three Sculpture by William King**

The Heckscher Museum's collection of sculptures by William King addresses themes at the heart of human experience. From just a few thin pieces of interlocking metal, the artist created compositions that are both playful and perilous. In these sculptures, King distills the comfort, joy, and vulnerability that human connection can bring. East Hampton artist William King (1925--2015) began making sculpture in the 1940s as a student in New York City. Over the course of seven decades, he fashioned distinctive figures from materials including wood, clay, bronze, plaster, aluminum, and cloth.

#### **About the Heckscher Museum of Art**

The Heckscher Museum of Art celebrates 100 years in 2020. Founded by philanthropist Anna and August Heckscher in 1920, the Museum's Permanent Collection comprises more than 2,300 works from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century, including European and American painting, sculpture, works on paper, and photography. Located in scenic Heckscher Park in Huntington, the building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. To celebrate the anniversary, the Museum plans an expansive Centennial exhibition, *The Heckscher Museum Celebrates 100* scheduled to open in 2021. Visit Heckscher.org for more information.

