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Nasher Sculpture Center Commissions Sculpture

by Liz Larner at The University of Texas at Dallas

for City-Wide, Public Art Exhibition *Nasher XChange*

First citywide, museum-organized public sculpture exhibition in the United States to feature 10 works throughout Dallas; On view October 19, 2013 to February 16, 2014 in celebration of Nasher’s 10th anniversary

DALLAS, Texas (July 23, 2013) -- The Nasher Sculpture Center is pleased to reveal the plans for a newly commissioned **sculpture by artist Liz Larner for The University of Texas at Dallas.** The work is one of ten commissions created for the Nasher’s 10th anniversary, city-wide exhibition *Nasher XChange* which runs **October 19, 2013 through February 16, 2014.**

Liz Larner is a Los Angeles-based artist whose work has been characterized by a sustained examination into the nature of sculpture. For her *Nasher* *XChange* commission, Larner has proposed *X*, a mirror-polished stainless steel sculpture that will be placed in the courtyard of the new Edith O'Donnell Arts and Technology Building (ATEC), set to open in fall 2013**.** This sculpture, situated at the intersection of art and technology, is a complex contemporary figure and symbol of the unknown and what will be.

ATEC is a new interdisciplinary curriculum at UT Dallas that fosters collaboration at the intersection of arts and humanities, science and engineering and is a partnership between the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science and the School of Arts and Humanities.

Larner has employed a wide range of materials and working methods to create sculptures and installations that push the boundaries of fundamental aspects of three-dimensional object making such as the use of line, color and form. Her work navigates the vast and still unexplored possibilities of sculpture’s formal language, which she uses to structure a discourse that is distinctly her own. Made to be approached and reﬂected upon, Larner’s work requires a negotiation of space and encourages viewers to extend their perceptions beyond the visual. Larner reminds viewers that it is as important to revere one’s embodied condition and the complex experience of the physical, as it is to embrace the conceptual pleasure of comprehending the spirit of emotion through sensate perception.

The innovative X-shape of the sculpture, described by the artist as continuing “my investigation into the open form and the use of line to create volume,” has been developed over several years and could not have been realized without the use of digital modeling technology. Larner has relied heavily on technology in the past, as with *2001*, a Public Art Fund commission, that used 3-dimensional animation programs and computer modeling to create intersecting cubical and spherical forms, and a hyper-iridescent paint made up of laser-cut particles, applied in a smooth coat with automotive spraying methods. Her experience working both with and without technology intrigued faculty at UT Dallas, and made this pairing a natural ﬁt as the program progresses through its ﬁrst year.

Larner has had numerous solo exhibitions at venues such as Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland; MAK, Österreiches Museum für angewandte Kunst / Gegenwartskunst, Vienna; Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Regen Projects, Los Angeles; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Galleri Nordanstad-Skarstedt, Stockholm; Jennifer Flay Galerie, Paris; and Galerie Peter Pakesch, Vienna.

The Nasher has also commissioned Ruben Ochoa, Rick Lowe, Ugo Rondinone, Alfredo Jaar, Vicki Meek, Charles Long, Good/Bad Art Collective, Lara Almarcegui, and Rachel Harrison to create works for *Nasher XChange*. Details about their works, including the locations of the installations, will be announced throughout the summer.

VIDEO: <http://youtu.be/FwthburZLbM>

Photos of ATEC Courtyard by Allison V. Smith:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/is18zbo17q3dddu/nMg3BM03fA>

Photos of X Sculptures by Liz Larner:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/54ww8ho0r9kp263/JAHxDsjv-7>

Photos and Logos of UTD Campus:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kmca9cmegalp950/TWclk4URqf>

**About the Nasher Sculpture Center:**

Open since 2003 and located in the heart of the Dallas Arts District, the Nasher Sculpture Center is home to one of the finest collections of modern and contemporary sculptures in the world, the Raymond and Patsy Nasher Collection, featuring more than 300 masterpieces by Calder, Giacometti, Matisse, Picasso, Rodin, and more. The longtime dream of the late Raymond and Patsy Nasher, the museum was designed by world-renowned architect Renzo Piano in collaboration with landscape architect Peter Walker.

Hailed by the "USA Today" as one of the great sculpture gardens where art enhances nature, the roofless museum seamlessly integrates the indoor galleries with the outdoor spaces creating a museum experience unlike any other in the world. On view in the light-filled galleries and amid the landscaped grounds are rotating works from the Collection, as well as blockbuster exhibitions and one-of-a-kind installations by the most celebrated artists of our times. In addition to the indoor and outdoor gallery spaces, the Center contains an auditorium, education and research facilities, a cafe, and a store.

The Nasher brings the best of contemporary culture to Dallas through special programs designed to engage visitors, including artist talks, lecture programs, contemporary music concerts, educational classes and exclusive member events.

The Nasher Sculpture Center is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm and until 11 pm for special events, and from 10 am to 5 pm on the first Saturday of each month.  Admission is $10 for adults, $7 for seniors, $5 for students, and free for members and children 12 and under, and includes access to special exhibitions.  For more information, visit [www.NasherSculptureCenter.org](https://mail.nashersculpturecenter.org/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://www.nashersculpturecenter.org/).

**About UT Dallas**

UT Dallas comprises seven schools and offers an array of interdisciplinary degree programs.

With a current enrollment of more than 19,000 students and a world-class faculty that includes one Nobel laureate, members of the National Academies of Sciences and Engineering and active, news-making researchers, UT Dallas aims to provide Texas and the nation with the benefits of educational and research programs of the highest quality.

**About ATEC**

The ATEC program at UT Dallas combines science with design to create groundbreaking art, communication and technology. The building and programs are designed to spark ingenuity and collaboration by offering a diverse range of studio, labs and learning environments. The program strongly encourages interdisciplinary collaboration among the arts, engineering, computing and design.

The Edith O’Donnell ATEC building is a $60 million, 155,000-square-foot facility designed by Studios Architecture, who also designed the Googleplex in Mountain View, California. The Building houses visual arts, the arts and technology program and a 1,200-seat lecture hall. The Building will add 2,150 new classroom seats and 50 faculty offices. Classroom space is designated for game design, sound design, visual arts, a motion capture lab, conference rooms, 2D drawing and painting art studios, 3D art studios, soundproof chambers, recording studio, and photography and print-making labs.

**About Nasher XChange:**

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, the Nasher Sculpture Center will present *Nasher XChange*, a dynamic art exhibition consisting of 10 newly-commissioned public sculptures by contemporary artists at 10 sites throughout the city of Dallas from October 19, 2013 to February 16, 2014. Covering a diverse range of neighborhoods and approaches to sculpture, *Nasher XChange* represents the first citywide, museum-organized public art exhibition in the United States.

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For more information and photos, please contact:

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