## BRECK CREATE PRESS RELEASE

ANNOUNCING

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## Breck Create Announces Three New Additions to the Public Art Collection

More Information at breckcreate.org

**Breckenridge, CO** - Breck Create is thrilled to announce three new additions to the Breckenridge Public Art Collection: *Bird Lady* by Phillip Glashoff, *Indy Sunset* by Teresa Hansen + Jason Dreweck and *Together* by Joshua Gannon. The Breckenridge Public Art Collection, owned by the Town of Breckenridge and managed by Breck Create, engages passersby from all walks of life, inciting conversation around topics that are quintessentially Breckenridge, from the picturesque mountain environment to rich local history. Pieces in the permanent collection occupy carefully-selected public spaces throughout town, and are thoughtfully curated via a democratic process to enhance the collective aesthetic experience of locals and visitors alike.

"These remarkable works of art will undoubtedly enrich the cultural landscape of the town, engaging residents and visitors alike with their unique perspectives and aesthetic appeal," says Town of Breckenridge Councilman Todd Rankin.

The Breckenridge Public Art Collection is part of the Breckenridge Public Art Program. Formerly managed by the Town of Breckenridge, the Breckenridge Public Art Program is now run by Breck Create. In 2016, Breck Create spearheaded the creation of a Public Art Program Master Plan and Policy, which builds on the Town's 2006 Art in Public Places Master Plan with input from community representatives to chart the course of public art in Breckenridge.

"Breck Create understands the importance of public art to the Town of Breckenridge," says Tamara Nuzzaci Park, president/CEO of Breck Create. The public art collection reflects the community's values and stimulates conversation around topics important to residents, Nuzzaci Park says. The aim of the collection is to enhance the unique and authentic character of Breckenridge, helping to create a multi-faceted destination that offers not only incredible outdoor recreation experiences, but also amenities that everyone can enjoy.

Jill Desmond, Chair of the Public Art Advisory Committee, concurs and goes on to say, "the Breckenridge Public Art Collection represents a broad and varied collection of artworks that reflect the community and its rich history in fun and inspiring ways. Each of these works was either commissioned or donated by community members who are truly c



to enhance everyone's experience with public art within this glorious natural setting. While the artists all hail from various locations, they share a common reverence for the importance of citing a work in the best location possible to help locals and visitors alike appreciate and connect with both the artwork and nature."

These three pieces are on display now at the respective publicly accessible locations listed below and will soon be featured in the Public Art + Arts District Audio Tour. Read on for more information about each piece and take a self-guided tour of the entire collection by using your mobile device to listen to the Breckenridge Public Art + Arts District Audio Tour along with a printable map, both of which are available at <a href="mailto:breckereate.org/public-art">breckereate.org/public-art</a>.

Title: Bird Lady

By Phillip Glashoff

**Location: Breckenridge Recreation Center Roundabout** 

Bird Lady, a sculpture by Phillip Glashoff, was donated to the public art collection by Cary and Marsha Cooper, former long-time residents of Breckenridge. The piece was installed outside the entrance to the Breckenridge Recreation Center in 2022. As with much of Glashoff's work, Bird Lady repurposes rusted equipment from the artist's ranch in Suisun Valley, California, to create a figurative piece. The abstract, geometric sculpture depicts a woman welcoming birds who alight on her outstretched arms and voluminous hairdo.

According to Glashoff's website, the sculptor takes "advantage of all the rusty machinery, fire extinguishers, compressor covers, motorcycle tanks, and metal things that were abandoned and scattered around (my) farm." He also states that he enjoys working with steel because of the longevity the material provides.

"We hope that seeing Bird Lady positioned among the trees in Breckenridge will nudge viewers to remember to listen for the songs, beauty and flight of birds," says Marsha Cooper. "(To) look at the grandeur around them and smile with appreciation for this artful reminder."

Title: Indy Sunset

By Teresa Hansen + Jason Dreweck

Location: Blue River Bike + Pedestrian Path
Commissioned by John and Michele Thompson

Artists Jason Dreweck and Teresa Hansen created *Indy Sunset* with the hope that those who see it will remember the riders who pioneered the sport that continues to inspire a sense of freedom, style, passion and progression. Their proposal was approved by Breckenridge Town Council in April 2020. The bronze sculpture is modeled after photographs of Logan McCalmon performing the "Indy Grab" trick while snowboarding and skateboarding. McCalmon passed away in 2016 and was a free spirit who learned to snowboard in Breckenridge at an early age.

"This collaboration (between Hansen and Dreweck) has been a lifetime in the making," says Dreweck. "We've developed a synergy that ebbs and flows throughout the creative process. *Indy Sunset* embodies our commitment to capture the spirit of snowboarding."



Title: *Together*By Joshua Gannon

Location: Alpine Garden

Commissioned by Nils Nelson and family in honor of Sue Nelson

Together by Joshua Gannon is a carved stone bench intended for two, as signified by two depressions on its surface. Gannon hopes the piece sparks curiosity in passersby and gives onlookers a wide-angle view into a piece of stone. He carved a slab of quartz monzonite to create the piece and considers it a metamorphic stone. Quartz monzonite originates from sandstone, which has weathered tremendous elements to emerge as something heftier, harder and altogether different.

Carving stone for Gannon is an exercise in discovery. Uncovering the interior of a slab is almost always a surprise, and he feels as though he gets to open things that aren't intended to be opened. Sculpting stone reveals a transformative process that is much larger than our human perspective of space and time; it shows a moment of momentous change, Gannon says. When he carves, he takes whatever the stone can give, allowing it to lead him in the proper direction by reading cracks and looking for veins of color or variation.

**About the Breckenridge Public Art Program**: The Breckenridge Public Art Program consists of three major components—a permanent public art collection, primarily outdoor sculptures, installed in public gathering spaces over the past two decades; events and festivals featuring installations of temporary or ephemeral public art including seasonal exhibitions; and public art-related programming such as tours or hands-on activities aimed at showcasing or inviting community participation in public art.

The Breckenridge Public Art Program now has 33 pieces in its permanent public art collection. The artworks occupy gathering spaces and public throughways around town, where they engage both residents and guests.

Public art can be defined as art that is located in the public realm—whether a large-scale, site-specific sculpture that forms the centerpiece of a community gathering place, a thoughtful piece perched inconspicuously along a public trail, or detail work integrated into functional items like benches, walkways, retaining walls, and architectural treatments. Works of public art often animate outdoor spaces, or they can enhance the interior spaces of community facilities like bus shelters, recreation centers, and government offices.

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**About Breck Create:** Breck Create aims to build a dynamic, year-round creative community in Breckenridge. The organization's mission is to deliver inspiring creative experiences that enrich the quality of life for all residents and quality of place for visitors. Breck Create supports and serves artists, creatives, cultural enthusiasts, visitors and the community at large by providing a year-round schedule of performances, exhibitions, screenings, art classes and workshops as well as other engagement opportunities.

The organization maintains, manages and operates the Town of Breckenridge's exceptional cultural facilities and also hosts arts-based events in public gathering spaces throughout Breckenridge. Breck Create's core attractions are the Riverwalk



Center—a 750-seat, heated, indoor performance venue—and a lively Arts District campus of renovated historic structures that now function as studio spaces for art classes and workshops. These structures also include affordable rentals for local artists and visiting artist-in-residence participants. The Breckenridge Arts District is a certified district within the <u>Colorado Creative Industries</u> Creative Districts program.

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