# deCORDOVA ENEW BIENNIAL 2019



# deCORDOVA NEW ENGLAND BIENNIAL 2019

Organized by Sarah Montross with Sam Adams, Scout Hutchinson, Martina Tanga, and Elizabeth Upenieks

DECORDOVA SCULPTURE PARK AND MUSEUM

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SAM ADAMS, SCOUT HUTCHINSON, SARAH MONTROSS, MARTINA TANGA, AND ELIZABETH UPENIEKS

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# Eva Lundsager Born 1960 in Buffalo, New York Lives in Brookline, Massachusetts, and works in Somerville, Massachusetts

BA University of Maryland, College Park MFA from Hunter College, New York, New York

Lundsager is best known for abstract oil paintings ranging from her early, very small enamel-like oil-on-wood paintings to her later large-scale canvases. Yet throughout her career she has also painted in watercolor, gouache, and sumi ink on paper, returning to these media almost ritualistically. While abstract, her watercolors evoke landscape, with broad swaths of color and lush, gestural passages. Lundsager considered herself an abstractionist until she realized she had consistently incorporated a horizon line into her compositions, making the reference to landscape undeniable.

Lundsager describes her work as moving from an interior life to the outside world in which we all operate, in order to reconcile these two dimensions. Maintaining dual qualities of inner and outer, movement and stillness, her watercolors suggest contingent and hovering entities. This irresolution offers an alternative to the expectations of perfection and efficiency endemic to contemporary culture. Her watercolors bring us to the precious moment when all options are still possible, just prior to an outcome becoming fixed.

For the *Biennial*, Lundsager presents works from her *Invitation* series (2018). Each consists of

a horizontally bisected ground, painted in muted sumi ink, upon which blues, pinks, purples, greens, and yellows burst forth like crustaceans washed ashore or constellations in the sky (Lundsager explicitly nods to Joan Miró's 1939 Constellation series). The title Invitation invokes a sense of sociality and community making, as if each burst of color is a personality waiting to connect with the next. The paintings engage with traditional notions of beauty, but there is also something off-kilter about the juxtaposition of the murky beige background with the bright splashes of color, which seem at times to be in competition with each other. Responding to such tensions, Lundsager comments, "I love beauty but I am interested in a bent beauty, an awkward beauty."1

> 1. Sarah Montross and Sam Adams in conversation with the artist, September 19, 2018, Somerville, Massachusetts.



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ross and conversation t, September nerville, s.



Invitation 29, 2018, watercolor and sumi ink on paper, 24 × 18 inches.

#### Tootsie Roll Medicine Wheel,

Acrylic on canvas 40 × 96 inches

### **EVA LUNDSAGER**

Invitation 1, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 2, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 3, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 4, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 5, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 6, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 14, 2018 Watercolor and sumi ink on

paper 24 × 18 inches

Invitation 18, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 21, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 27, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 29, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 30, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 31, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 33, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on paper

24 × 18 inches

Invitation 35, 2018

Watercolor and sumi ink on

24 × 18 inches

#### **IONATHAN MESS**

Landfill No.27: Northeastern Cross Section, 2012

Various reclaimed ceramic materials

7 × 9 × 2 ½ inches

Landfill No.27: Northwestern

Cross Section, 2012

Various reclaimed ceramic

materials 7 × 9 ½ × 2 ½ inches

Landfill No.27: Southeastern

Cross Section, 2012 Various reclaimed ceramic

materials

 $7 \times 9 \times 3$  inches

Landfill No.27: Southwestern

Cross Section, 2012

Various reclaimed ceramic

materials

7 × 9 ½ × 2 ½ inches

Landfill No.29: Central Cross

Section, 2012

Various reclaimed ceramic materials

 $7 \times 13 \times 4$  inches

Landfill No.29: Northeastern

Cross Section, 2012

Various reclaimed ceramic materials

7 ½ × 9 ½ × 4 ½ inches

Landfill No.29: Southwestern

Cross Section, 2012

Various reclaimed ceramic materials

7 ½ × 11 × 5 ½ inches

Landfill No.44: Northern Cross

Section, 2012

Various reclaimed ceramic

materials

 $7 \times 17 \times 2$  inches

Landfill No.44: Southern Cross

Section, 2012

Various reclaimed ceramic

materials

 $7 \times 17 \times 4$  inches

Landfill No.14: Central

Striation, 2015

Various reclaimed ceramic

materials

10 ¼ × 14 × 4 ¾ inches

Landfill No.14: Eastern

Striation, 2015

Various reclaimed ceramic

materials

10 ½ × 10 × 4 inches

Landfill No.14: Western

Striation, 2015

Various reclaimed ceramic

materials

10 × 11 × 6 ½ inches

Landfill No.19: Central

Striation, 2015

Various reclaimed ceramic materials

9 × 13 × 4 ½ inches

Landfill No.19: Northwestern

Striation, 2015

Various reclaimed ceramic

materials

9 × 11 × 6 inches

Landfill No.19: Southeastern

Striation, 2015

Various reclaimed ceramic materials

9 × 9 × 4 ½ inches