



# NEWS RELEASE

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**ALBANY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PRESENTS *Upon the Ground, Below the Water***

ALBANY, N.Y. (April 19, 2018) - - - The Albany International Airport Gallery presents *Upon the Ground, Below the Water*, March 24, 2018 to September 3, 2018. The exhibition features artists Richard Barlow, Matt Frieburghaus, Daesha Devón Harris, Tanya Marcuse, Kingsley Parker and Claire Sherwood, who collectively consider our relationship to landscapes both near and far. A public reception will be held on Friday, April 20, from 5:30-7:30 pm in the Gallery, which is located on the third floor of the main terminal.

There are few places in the world now where the imprint of human endeavor is unseen. We have navigated, mapped and left our mark upon Arctic ice floes and ocean depths, forest floors and river beds. In turn, our sense of history, mythology and identity are all entwined with the landscape we inhabit. The artists in this exhibition observe the ways in which features of the natural world shape – and are themselves transformed by – our activities and aspirations.

**Richard Barlow:** Barlow’s large-scale, immersive wall drawings represent landscapes significant to his experience, and reflect observations of pivotal change occurring in those places. In 2016, Barlow attended the Arctic Circle Residency, which spurred the development of the 34’ wall drawing of an Arctic ice floe, as well as the drawing series Arctic Maps, included in this exhibition. In 2017, Barlow was awarded a NYS Foundation for the Arts Fellowship.

**Matt Frieburghaus:** The video and sculptures included in this exhibition were produced following Frieburghaus’ 2014 Nes Artist Residency in Iceland. Subtle shifts in time and place flicker seamlessly in the video, *Sea/Ice/Land/Sky*. And while the scale of Iceland’s monumental glaciers is disrupted in the artist’s model-sized PLA printed sculptures, their features are preserved in gem-like detail.

**Daesha Devón Harris:** Through photographs, video and assemblages, Harris interprets the lives of African American individuals through layers of history and complex fictional narrative. Common to the two distinct bodies of work presented here is the physical and metaphorical presence of the river. The river is pathway, escape route, immersive redemption. In these photographs, the portraits and wading figures are submerged in water, their features embellished by leafy debris or softened by the cloudy murk of churned up silt and clay. Across the river they carry memories, dreams, amulets and poems - preserved along the journey to a brighter shore. In 2017, Harris was an MDOCS Storyteller’s Institute Fellow and Artist-in-Residence at The Center for Photography at Woodstock.

**Tanya Marcuse:** Pairing the dizzying complexity of a medieval tapestry with the encyclopedic innumerability of a rare collection, Tanya Marcuse's photographs are studies of nature in its variations of want and plenty. These forests and orchards look almost natural, but closer examination reveals them to be meticulously crafted still lifes that invite the close-up discovery of overripe fruit, dark, fragrant earth, sleeping mice, and wisps of snake skin. Marcuse is the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, and was a finalist for the Real Photography Award, an international award for contemporary photography. Her work is held in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Gallery of Art, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art among others. She is represented by Julie Saul Gallery, New York, and the large-scale installation featured in this exhibition was supported in part by Laumont Photographics, New York.

**Kingsley Parker:** Kingsley Parker's sculptures, installations and works on paper draw their content from his long interest in the environmental sensitivities of oceans and rivers, as well as the fishing and commercial industries that operate alongside them. His installation, *UpRiver*, is a sewn map that celebrates the Hudson River - its channels, towns and modelled landmarks describe a cartographic yet personal portrait of a historic, living waterway.

**Claire Sherwood:** The rock-like formations assembled here reflect the landscape of the artist's boulder-strewn property in upstate New York. The smaller specimens are reminiscent of the collections made by her young children, as they go about amassing the treasures of the world around them. Earthy yet rare, and studded with frosted crystalline surfaces, this rock fall is grounded in the territory of home and its transformation into unlikely beauty.

For more information, please contact Kathy Greenwood, Director of the Art & Culture Program, at 518.242.2243 or [kgreenwood@albanyairport.com](mailto:kgreenwood@albanyairport.com)

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**About the Art & Culture Program.** The Albany International Airport's Art & Culture Program is devoted to showcasing the cultural vitality of New York's Capital Region through exhibitions and installations throughout the Airport's terminal. Such presentations enhance the experience of airport travelers and foster the advancement of a thriving creative community. <http://albanyairport.com/art>