

Home of The Baker Museum & Naples Philharmonic

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#### For Immediate Release

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# Artis-Naples, The Baker Museum Presents

# Entangled in the Mangroves: Florida Everglades Through Installation



March 8, 2025 – September 21, 2025

Houston R. Cypress, Otter Clan (b. Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, 1980). ...*what endures*..., 2021. Film still. Courtesy of the artist.

**February 20, 2025 (Naples, FL)** — Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum is proud to present *Entangled in the Mangroves: Florida Everglades Through Installation*, a dynamic exhibition featuring the work of nine Florida-based artists who explore the critical importance of the Everglades through diverse media, including painting, photography, ceramics, film, poetry and installation. Climate change poses a significant threat to these vast wetlands, home to a diverse array of plants, wildlife and communities. On view from March 8 through September 21, 2025, this exhibition highlights the ecological and cultural importance of one of Florida's most distinctive landscapes and the urgent need for its preservation in the face of this threat.

Curated by The Baker Museum Curator of Modern Art Dianne Brás-Feliciano, Ph.D., *Entangled in the Mangroves* unites artists, activists, Indigenous leaders and scholars in a shared dialogue about the Everglades and its complex ecological history. The exhibition will be accompanied by a full-color catalog, planned for release in the fall, featuring an introduction by William J. Osceola, secretary of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida Business Council, as well as a scholarly essay by Brás-Feliciano detailing the environmental challenges facing the Everglades today. *"Entangled in the Mangroves* reflects our belief in fostering meaningful dialogue between art, nature, cultural heritage and environmental stewardship," said The Baker Museum Director and Chief Curator Courtney McNeil. "By engaging with themes deeply tied to our region and showcasing artists who inspire a greater appreciation of the world around us, this exhibition aligns with our commitment to presenting thought-provoking exhibitions that enrich and inspire the community."

"This exhibition brings together artistic vision, traditional ecological knowledge and scientific awareness to shed light on the interconnectedness of ecosystems and communities," Brás-Feliciano said. "Through these works, we invite audiences to engage deeply with the Everglades and reflect on their role in its future.

*Entangled in the Mangroves* will be on view from March 8, 2025, through September 21, 2025. For more information, please visit <u>https://artisnaples.org/baker-museum/exhibitions/2024-25/entangled-in-the-mangroves</u>.

*Entangled in the Mangroves* features over 40 works across a variety of disciplines. The featured artists are:

- Nathalie Alfonso (b. Colombia, 1987)
- Jennifer Basile (b. United States, 1973)
- Amalia Caputo (b. Venezuela, 1964)
- Beatriz Chachamovits (b. Brazil, 1986)
- Deryn Cowdy (b. England, 1962)
- Houston R. Cypress, Otter Clan (b. Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, 1980)
- Lisette Morales (b. Nicaragua, 1970)
- Donna Ruff (b. United States, 1947)
- Gretchen Scharnagl (b. United States, 1957)

Presented as part of the 2024-25 Artis—Naples season under the theme of *Storytelling*, this exhibition tells the rich and evolving narrative of the Everglades and its people. For more information, please visit <u>https://artisnaples.org/baker-museum</u>.

*Entangled in the Mangroves: Florida Everglades Through Installation* is organized by Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum in collaboration with the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida.

This exhibition is generously sponsored by a grant from the Collier Community Foundation and Waterside Shops.

## **RELATED PROGRAMMING**

# Friday, March 21, 6pm · Ubben Signature Event Space

Panel Discussion: Artists from *Entangled in the Mangroves* Find more information at: <u>https://artisnaples.org/baker-museum/exhibitions/2024-25/entangled-in-the-mangroves</u>

#### **Saturday, May 10, 12-4pm · Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus** *Spring Community Day*

#### **Music and Museum**

Tickets to all Naples Philharmonic Masterworks, Visiting Orchestras and other select performances include complimentary admission to The Baker Museum, along with special extended museum hours. View dates and hours at <a href="https://artisnaples.org/calendar/music-and-museum">https://artisnaples.org/calendar/music-and-museum</a>

## **Art After Hours**

Enjoy free admission to The Baker Museum on the last Wednesday of each month from 6-9pm. Local musicians offer musical entertainment and audiences of all ages are welcome to view museum exhibitions and galleries.

### THE MICCOSUKEE TRIBE

The Miccosukee Tribe has a proud history, which predates Columbus. The tribe was first based in North Florida, with lands extending north to the Appalachians and south to the Keys; however, U.S. invasions pushed the Miccosukee to the southernmost extent of their traditional lands. While non-Native anthropologists have often confused the Miccosukee with their Muskogee Creek-speaking neighbors to the north, the Miccosukee were only briefly affiliated with the Creeks and are a distinct tribal nation.

To survive in this new environment, the Miccosukee adapted to living in small groups in temporary "hammock style" camps spread throughout the Everglades' vast river of grass. In this fashion, they kept to themselves for about 100 years, resisting efforts to become assimilated. Then, after the Tamiami Trail highway was built in 1928, the tribe began to accept New World concepts.

To ensure that the federal government would formally recognize the Miccosukee Tribe, Buffalo Tiger, an esteemed member of the tribe, led a group to Cuba in 1959, where they asked Fidel Castro for, and were granted, international recognition as a sovereign country within the United States. Following this, on January 11, 1962, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior approved the Miccosukee Constitution, and the tribe was officially recognized as the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida. This legally established the Miccosukee's tribal existence and their status with the U.S. government as a sovereign, domestic dependent nation. Learn more here: <a href="https://miccosukee.com/miccosukee-tribe-history/">https://miccosukee.com/miccosukee-tribe-history/</a>

### **ARTIS-NAPLES**

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic, Artis—Naples is unique among cultural institutions nationwide, equally dedicated to both the visual and performing arts featuring artists of global distinction.

### KIMBERLY K. QUERREY and LOUIS A. SIMPSON CULTURAL CAMPUS

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen and Sharon and Timothy Ubben Artistic and Music Director Alexander Shelley, Artis—Naples offers more than 800 paid and free events annually across its 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. Artis—Naples welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The cultural campus is home to five buildings, including two performance halls (Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion), The Baker Museum, the Toni Stabile Education Building and the Kohan Administration Building.

#### NAPLES PHILHARMONIC

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida's arts community. As part of Artis—Naples, the Naples Philharmonic performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June in the 1,477-seat Hayes Hall, the 283-seat Daniels Pavilion and around Southwest Florida. The Naples Philharmonic has enjoyed a history of working with world-class music directors. Following a successful designate year in 2023-24, Alexander Shelley begins his new role as artistic and music director in the 2024-25 season. Renowned violinist James Ehnes continues as artistic partner through the 2024-25 season, working with Naples Philharmonic musicians in a variety of settings with a focus on inspiring and embodying a high level of artistry. Podium leadership also includes Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly, celebrating 15 years in this role in the 2024-25 season and bringing pops performances that celebrate music across genres.

#### THE BAKER MUSEUM

The Baker Museum is the foremost fine art museum in Southwest Florida, presenting an ambitious slate of exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collection. Comprising more than 3,000 objects, the museum's broad holdings of 20th- and 21st-century art reflect particular strengths in modern art of the United States and Mexico. The Baker Museum's collections demonstrate the generosity and commitment of area collectors, including significant gifts from the collection of the late Olga Hirshhorn.

With more than two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the museum is committed to the stewardship and scholarship of its collections and to fostering inspiring and transformative experiences with the visual arts. At the same time, The Baker Museum partners with the world's leading arts institutions to make extraordinary exhibitions accessible to the Southwest Florida community—including recently the National Portrait Gallery, London and the Helen Frankenthaler Foundation. In 2020, Artis—Naples celebrated the renovation and expansion of The Baker Museum and adjoining Norris Garden, designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism, which created new spaces for multidisciplinary exploration and social interaction.

### **EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY**

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages in Collier and Lee counties. Each season, thousands of Collier County Public School students interact with Artis—Naples education programming, both on our cultural campus and in their classrooms. Beyond our commitment to youth education, the Lifelong Learning program provides informative lectures and study opportunities for adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, comprised of more than 3,500 donor households, offers activities, travel experiences and events designed to foster a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival's continued excellence and growth. In 2023, the festival's 15th anniversary year, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker* Magazine's "20 Great Film Festivals in Vacation Destinations."

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