



## BAINBRIDGE ISLAND ARTS & HUMANITIES COUNCIL

### **For immediate release**

### **ARTIST BRUCE MYERS TO LEAD IMMERSIVE, INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION AND WINSLOW WAY ART WALK THIS SUNDAY**

*Bainbridge Island, Wash.* – Jan. 18 – Bruce Myers, the artist behind the newly completed Winslow Way sidewalk installation, *Ripple Effect*, will introduce the Bainbridge community to its newest public artwork at **2 p.m. Sunday, January 22** at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, 100 Ravine Lane.

This intimate, interactive community opportunity will begin with a discussion in which Myers will describe how he developed the Winslow Way artwork and illuminate its relationship to water and nature.

After reading selections from the poetry he wrote while immersed in the project, Myers will invite participants to write their own water- and nature-inspired poetry. Verses will be printed on strips of paper in water-based ink and then dipped in a vessel of water in which the ink will dissolve.

The group will move from the museum to the southwest corner of Winslow Way, where Myers will lead a walk from the beginning of the artwork to its end point in front Chase Bank, using water from the vessel to dedicate the artwork along the way.

Dress warmly for the walk, and don't miss this opportunity to truly make the island's public art your own.

### **Project background**

The Arts & Humanities Council was contracted with the City of Bainbridge Island for 2011 to manage this latest City of Bainbridge Island Public Art project. The artwork was selected by the Public Art Committee, a volunteer citizens' advisory group, during a multi-year evaluation process. The artwork is supported by the Public Art Fund as well as a \$20,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts won by the Arts & Humanities Council.

### **About the Arts & Humanities Council**

For a quarter century, the Arts & Humanities Council has nurtured Bainbridge Island's cultural community with programs, services, and collaborations that form the core of our mission: *to create an environment on Bainbridge Island in which the arts and humanities flourish*. Last year we engaged 2,200 young people in a full range of quality arts and humanities programs; provided support services to local artists and cultural organizations; awarded \$55,000 in grants and scholarships to outstanding members of the cultural community; and engaged people beyond our island in the creative milieu that is Bainbridge.

### **Contact**

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## **BRUCE MYERS**

### **ARTIST BIO**

Public artist, poet, and observer of the natural and physical world around us, Bruce Myers seeks to capture form and image in metal, stone, glass and on paper. Bruce's integrated artworks bring an awareness of our role as stewards of the natural environments in which we live. His sensibility for the ephemeral and profound instill a deepened sense of belonging. Drawing from pattern and form found in nature, Bruce combines the spirit of natural design and man-made architecture to create an interplay between context and discovery, thus generating an internal response within the viewer of empowerment.

Bruce lived his formative years in a unique natural setting within the Montana Rockies. It was in West Glacier where the wild landscape and natural wonders became a significant source of his future artistic identity. From the mountains and sky, to the timeless Middle Fork of the Flathead River, Bruce began to frame his interests in the ecology of place and art.

Spurred on by this creative passion, Bruce studied Fine Art at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. His studies included participation in the New York City Loft Student Residency where, after exploring painting, he found his way back to sculpture as a more powerful medium to express his interests in the natural world around him. After earning his BFA in 1988, Bruce focused on public art as his professional interest, moving to Seattle in pursuit of public art opportunities. His first public art commission was Leaf Legend for the renowned Discovery Park Visitors Center.

Bruce currently resides on Orcas Island, a place not far from the tranquility, natural rhythms, and mirror of nature that he so enjoyed in his youth.

"It is important to be close to the subject that inspires me. A night sky, surging tides, earth, the abundance of water amplifies the ephemeral and there is a daily display of life that is a reminder of nature's mystery and beauty."

Bruce Myers continues to express his art through the process of public art. The context of site, collaboration, community engagement, cultural history and landscape serve to bring a functional relationship of poetic utility to his artistic expression. The art serves a larger purpose in that is experiential, often inspiring in the public a renewed vision of place, and through the power of discovery, a renewed interest in the ecology of life. As he describes, "Time is revealed in the details, brought to life in the form and pattern around us. This is where we learn about the infinite and the vast expanse of earth we call home."

Bruce continues to explore this relationship of our human experience in the context of nature through his public installations throughout the Greater Puget Sound region. Beyond his work in Washington, he has been recently recognized and awarded a public commission in the Monterey Bay area for the Farm Park Natural Area.



Segment of the Winslow Way sidewalk installation *Ripple Effect*, courtesy of the artist.