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di Rosa
Center for
Contemporary Art

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di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art Announces *Totem di Rosa* by Michael Garlington

Napa, Ca. (February 15, 2023) – di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art is thrilled to introduce *di Rosa Projects*, a new series of artist-led gallery activations. *di Rosa Projects* invites contemporary artists into dialog with the permanent collection, building bridges between the past, present and future of Northern California art. Kicking off this series is acclaimed photographer and sculptor, Michael Garlington who will be building a site specific sculpture called *Totem di Rosa*.

Known for monumental photo-temples that have appeared at Burning Man and museums across the country, Michael Garlington will build [Totem di Rosa](#), a towering sculptural meditation on the art of Northern California, crafted of wood, ceramic and photography.

“Around twenty years ago I stumbled onto the di Rosa Preserve...When I went home that day changed in fundamental ways, I made a piece of art from my true heart. Totem di Rosa, a link in the great eternal chain of art is my gift, my poem, my song to Rene and all the artists that reside in these walls,” explains artist Michael Garlington.

There will be an [Opening Reception](#) on Friday, March 3 from 3-5pm to celebrate the opening of Michael Garlington’s *Totem di Rosa* in Gallery 2. This reception is free for members plus one guest and \$10 for non-members.

A portion of Gallery 2 at di Rosa will be under construction during the spring and summer months in order to move the collection out of storage into a permanent storage facility on site. *di Rosa projects* will allow visitors to continue to view and engage with the permanent collection.

“*di Rosa Projects* is different from a typical exhibition in that curatorial power is given over to the artists, allowing them to create in response to the collection,” explains Curatorial Associate Twyla Ruby. “Our aim with this series is to build bridges and spark conversations across time and space - past to present and future.” di Rosa’s extensive permanent collection includes notable works by artists with ties to the Bay Area from the mid-twentieth century to the early 2000’s.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Michael Garlington (b. 1977, Redding, CA) is a photographer and sculptor who has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions around the world. In 2018, he and partner Natalia Bertotti were commissioned by the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum to create the monumental *Paper Arch* as a

centerpiece for the traveling exhibition *No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man*. Garlington is represented by Paul Mahder Gallery, Healdsburg, and Fahey Klein Gallery, Los Angeles.

ABOUT DI ROSA CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

di Rosa is an art park and nature preserve on 217 acres in Carneros. Located at 5200 Sonoma Highway, di Rosa sits smack dab between Napa and Sonoma. The property includes two large art galleries, a beautiful lake, abundant birding, walking trails with vineyard views, outdoor sculptures, and picnic grounds.

Specializing in the art of Northern California, di Rosa presents contemporary exhibitions by Bay Area-based artists in addition to maintaining a permanent collection of notable works by artists with ties to the Bay Area from the mid-twentieth century to the early 2000's. di Rosa offers an array of public programs and events for all ages to inspire creativity and curiosity.

di Rosa is open to the public Friday through Sunday from 11 am to 4 pm, and by appointment Tuesday through Thursday. Public tours are offered Friday and Sunday at 1:30pm and on Saturdays at 11:30am and 1:30pm. Visitors are encouraged to bring picnics. Outside food and drink is welcome. Children and educators are always free at di Rosa. For more information visit www.dirosaart.org.

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TOTEM DI ROSA



Pictured above: Sketch for *Totem di Rosa*, Michael Garlington, 2022