

# HEXTON

modern | contemporary



PHILLIP K. SMITH III



American artist Phillip K. Smith III (b. Calif., 1972) uses light as a medium to create optically shifting sculptures and site-specific installations. His minimal but imposing interventions into vast outdoor landscapes and more discretely scaled sculptures are nuanced perceptual encounters in response to the unique conditions of site and context. Expansile and living, Smith's boundary dissolving sculptures use mirrors and LED technology to alter the interplay of light, color, and surface in an expanded field, proposing shifts in experiential pace to modify the viewer's physical encounter. Trained as an artist and an architect at Rhode Island School of Design, Smith incorporates the site-specificity of architecture, with its reliance on scale, and its capacity to physically impact the human interaction it supports, to create immersive viewing experiences.

Recent projects include *The Circle of Land and Sky* (2017), part of the inaugural Desert X, the critically acclaimed Coachella Valley desert-wide, site-specific exhibition; *Open Sky* (2018), commissioned by Scandinavian fashion house COS for Italy's Salone del Mobile, Milan; *Detroit Skybridge* (2018), a 100-foot-long LED installation; *Three Half Lozenges*, a permanent acquisition activating the three two-story high windows on the 1920's façade of the Newark Museum of Art in Newark, NJ; and *Parallel Perpendicular*, a series of 5 freestanding reflective and color-based volumes for the new West Hollywood Park in Los Angeles, CA. Upcoming public projects include a 50' high all white, torqued light and shadow work in North Scottsdale, AZ (2023), and *Four Corners Extruded*, a 42' high reflective and light-based work for Seattle Sound Transit (2023).

Smith's recent institutional shows include: Phillip K. Smith III: *LIGHT + CHANGE* at Palm Springs Art Museum and *Three Parallels* at Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art. He has been the subject of solo exhibitions at the Toledo Art Museum, Laguna Art Museum, Sonoma Valley Museum of Art, and the Palm Springs Art Museum. His work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Toledo Museum of Art, Palm Springs Art Museum, Denver Art Museum, and Newark Museum of Art, and has been featured in hundreds of print and online publications, including *Architectural Digest*, *artnet*, *ARTnews*, *Forbes*, *The Guardian*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wallpaper\**, *Yatzer*, and *Whitehot Magazine*, among others.

## EDUCATION

- 1996 Bachelor of Architecture – Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
- 1995 Bachelor of Fine Arts – Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
- 1994 European Honors Program – Rhode Island School of Design, Rome, Italy

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS/PROJECTS

- 2023 *Outside In / Inside Out* - Hexton Gallery, Aspen, CO
- 2023 *Three Parallels* - Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale, AZ - Oct. 28, 2022 - Aug. 7, 2023
- 2023 *Light + Change* - Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, CA - Nov. 25, 2022 – May 7, 2023
- 2022 *Lozenge-Variant I* - Oceanside Museum of Art, Oceanside, CA - May 21 – September 18, 2022
- 2022 *Phillip K. Smith III: Shared Light* - Great Park Gallery, Irvine, CA - May 29 – August 28, 2022
- 2022 *Lightworks* - Library Street Collective, Detroit, MI - May 14 – June 25, 2022
- 2021 *Luminous Visions: PKS3 and Light Across the Collection* - Toledo Museum of Art - Oct, 2020 – April, 2021
- 2019 *Ten Columns* - Inaugural Exhibition at Bridge Projects, Los Angeles, October, 2019
- 2019 *From Lucid Stead: Prints & Works by Phillip K. Smith, III* – National Academy of Sciences – March, 2019
- 2019 *Portals: A Space for Color* – Sonoma Valley Museum of Art – January, 2019
- 2018 *Regular/Irregular* - Claremont Graduate University – October, 2018
- 2018 *Open Sky* - Milan, Italy – Courtyard & Garden Installation at Palazzo Isimbardi - April, 2018
- 2017 *I 20 Degree Arc East-Southeast* - FAENA Art - Miami Beach, FL
- 2016 *Bent Parallel + Torus 9* – Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2015 *Light + Shadow Works* – Royale Projects, Los Angeles, CA

- 2015 *Light & Shadow Works* - Jaffe-Friede Gallery, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
- 2013 *Lightworks*” - Royale Projects, Palm Desert, CA
- 2010 *PKS3: New Work*” – Royale Projects, Indian Wells, CA
- 2010 *Aperture*” – Palm Springs Art Museum

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Gesamtkunstwerk* – Peter Blake Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA – June 26, 2022 – Spring, 2023
- 2021 *The Light Show* – Denver Art Museum
- 2019 *Unsettled* – Nevada Museum of Art/Anchorage Museum/Palm Springs Art Museum – Aug. 2017 - April, 2019
- 2017 *The Circle of Land and Sky* – Desert X Art Exhibition – Coachella Valley, CA
- 2016 *Portals* - Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival, Indio, CA
- 2016 *LA TODAY* – Royale Projects, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 *Reflection Field* - Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival, Indio, CA
- 2014 *Lucid Stead: Four Windows & a Doorway* - Museum of Art & History, Lancaster, CA
- 2013 *Big: The Audacity of Scale* – U.C. Riverside, Palm Desert, CA
- 2012 *Smooth Operations* – Museum of Art & History, Lancaster, CA

## SELECTED PUBLIC PROJECTS

- 2023 *4 Corners Extruded* – Seattle Sound Transit – Wilburton Station, Bellevue, WA – Install Spring, 2023
- 2023 *Tri-Hex-Circ* – City of Scottsdale, AZ – Install Spring, 2023
- 2022 *Garden of Reflections* – Design District, Miami, FL (Art Basel) – Nov. 29 – Dec. 2, 2022
- 2022 *Parallel Perpendicular* – West Hollywood Park, West Hollywood, CA – 2022

## HEXTON GALLERY

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- 2021 *Three Half Lozenges* – Newark Museum of Art, Newark, NJ
- 2018 *Detroit Skybridge* – 100' long skybridge on 16th floor – Detroit, MI
- 2016 *1/4 Mile Arc* – Commissioned by the Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2015 *Gradient Arc* – Veterans Affairs Campus, Palo Alto, CA
- 2015 *Line to Line & Arc Line Arc* – Metropolitan Park Development, Arlington, VA
- 2014 *Gradient Column* – Brio Development, Walnut Creek, CA
- 2013 *Lucid Stead* – Artist-initiated project - Joshua Tree, CA
- 2013 *Chladni & "Spectrum II* – Music City Center, Nashville, TN
- 2013 *Aggregate* – Veterans Affairs Campus, Mental Health Courtyard & Sculpture, Palo Alto, CA
- 2012 *Where the Earth and the Sky Meet* – City Hall, Oklahoma City, OK
- 2012 *Point of View* – Maricopa County Courthouse Lobby Wall – Downtown Phoenix, AZ
- 2011 Maricopa County Courthouse Plaza – Downtown Phoenix, AZ – Selected 2011 (Project on hold)
- 2009 *Inhale/Exhale & Clarity* – University of La Verne, La Verne, CA
- 2008 *Transformed Flower* – Kansas City Cancer Survivors Park, Kansas City, MO
- 2007 *Infinity Column* – Monterey Pointe Development, Palm Desert, CA

## INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS

Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH  
 Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, CA  
 Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO  
 Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
 Newark Museum of Art, Newark, NJ

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

### SELECTED PRINT

- 2019 LA Times, Review of 10 Columns at Bridge Projects, by David Pagel, October, 2019
- 2018 Lust for Light, Ginkgo Press, Fall 2018
- 2017 Unsettled, Exhibition Catalogue, Nevada Art Museum
- 2017 Phillip K. Smith, III: Five Installations, by Grand Central Press/CalState Fullerton, Summer 2017
- 2016 A World of Art (8th Ed. Art History Textbook), by Henry S. Sayre (Chapter Six: Lucid Stead)
- 2014 Azure Magazine, "Capture the Light," by David Sokol – July/Aug 2014
- 2014 LA Times, Calendar (cover story), "Painting the Sky", by Deborah Vankin - April 12, 2014
- 2013 LA Times, "Faces to Watch 2014: ART," (Smith listed as 1 of 3 artists) by Deborah Vankin
- 2013 Architect Magazine, "The Very Best Projects of 2013" (Lucid Stead) – December 2013
- 2012 New York Spaces, "Optic Nerve" by Marjorie Gage, "The Goods" Special Issue
- 2011 500 x Art in Public. Ed. Chris Van Uffelen. Salenstein, Switzerland: Braun AG
- 2008 Art in America, "2007 Public Art in Review" ('Infinity Column' selected as 1 of 21 projects) – August 2008

### SELECTED DIGITAL

Yatzer, Dezeen, The Telegraph, NY Times, The Guardian, DesignBoom, Los Angeles Times, Rolling Stone, Architizer, Architectural Digest, Juxtapose, ThisIsColossal, ArtDaily, Hypebeast, Architect Magazine, Contemporist

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## ARTIST RESIDENCIES, SELECT LECTURES, BOARDS

- 2023 Board Member/Chair of Nominating Committee – Palm Springs Art Museum – 2020 - Present
- 2018 *New Work* – Denver Art Museum – Logan Lecture Series
- 2017 *3 Installations* – National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
- 2015 Artist-in-Residence - Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH (Residency, exhibition & 3 lectures)
- 2014 *Experiments in Light, Space, Form and Color* - Palm Springs Art Museum/University of La Verne
- 2014 *Phillip K. Smith, III: New Work* – Auburn University “Outlaws + Renegades” Lecture Series
- 2010 Artist-in-Residence - Palm Springs Art Museum – Created “Aperture” large scale light installation