



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***Carousel* Public Art Project Dedication Saturday, November 9, 2019, 10 AM**



Dedication of *Carousel*, by Artists Jim Hirschfield and Sonya Ishii

When: Saturday, November 9, 2019, 10:00 – 11:00AM

Where: Corner of Sycamore Park adjacent to the roundabout at the intersection of East Rosedale Street and Mitchell Boulevard in Council District 8 (across the roundabout from Southside Bank)

Parking: Free parking is available in the parking lot near the ball fields at Sycamore Park.

The public is invited. Free. No RSVP required.

“And the seasons they go 'round and 'round,
And the painted ponies go up and down.
We're captive on the carousel of time.
We can't return we can only look behind.
From where we came,
And go round and round and round In the circle game.”
— Joni Mitchell, The Circle Game

(Fort Worth, TX) – *Carousel*, a sculpture in perforated and painted stainless steel and aluminum, was recently installed in the center of the roundabout at the intersection of East Rosedale Street and Mitchell Boulevard. Created by the husband and wife artist team of Jim Hirschfield and Sonya Ishii, it stands a little over 24 feet high and 14 feet in diameter. This stationary *Carousel* is activated by the experience of driving around it, seeking to turn the ordinary event of traveling the area into a distinctive experience.

The artwork is inspired in part by the artist's fascination with carousels, which are a delight to children and a source of nostalgia for adults. It's theatrical quality references the Jubilee Theatre, which was originally established in this community, and the theatre department at Texas Wesleyan University; while it's six large, colorful parrots are a reference to the mascot of nearby Polytechnic High School and the importance of striving for education at all levels. Finally, *Carousel* is meant to serve as a metaphor for the circle of life, with all its ups and downs.

Artist Talk Saturday, November 9, 2019, 11:15 AM

(immediately following the dedication)

Ella Mae Shamblee Library, 1st Floor Conference Room
1062 Evans Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76104



Artists Talk with Jim Hirschfield and Sonya Ishii

When: Saturday, November 9, 2019, 11:15 AM – 12 Noon

Where: Ella Mae Shamblee Library, first floor conference room

The public is invited. Free. No RSVP required.

About the Artists:

Jim Hirschfield and Sonya Ishii have worked as a team for nearly three decades, and together have created over 40 public artworks. Jim Hirschfield teaches at the University of North Carolina and was Chair of the Art Department from 2010-2017. He has received major awards from both public and private foundations, including awards from the NEA, the North Carolina Arts Council, the Pollock-Krasner Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation. He has a long history in public art and currently serves on the Public Art Network Advisory Council. Sonya Ishii began her professional career as an artist on an early design team project in Seattle, Washington. She has received a number of awards, including two

North Carolina Artist Fellowships. Together, Hirschfield and Ishii have created public art projects ranging from freestanding sculpture to sculptural environments.

When beginning a project, the artists search for a theme: Something about a place that inspires and directs their design. They describe this as *finding an inherent truth that lends itself to becoming visual metaphor*. Their projects succeed through strong aesthetic designs that engage the viewer in a process of discovery, providing a multifaceted and meaningful experience.

For more information, please contact Public Art Project Manager Anne Allen at 817.298.3028 (direct), aallen@artscouncilfw.org, or email TalkTo@fwpublicart.org.

About Fort Worth Public Art: Fort Worth Public Art is a City of Fort Worth program created to enhance the visual environment, commemorate the city's rich cultural and ethnic diversity, integrate artwork into the development of the City's capital infrastructure improvements, and to promote tourism and economic vitality. Managed by the Arts Council of Fort Worth with oversight of the Fort Worth Art Commission, FWPA strives for artistic excellence and meaningful community involvement. For more information, please visit www.fwpublicart.org.



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