Dredge the Foundry | for Dirt and Era

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Woody Stauffer

DREDGE

the Foundry | for Dirt and Era

Sculpture MFA Graduate Catalog
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*This catalog is submitted to the Graduate School in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Fine Arts.*

*Dredge the Foundry | for Dirt and Era exhibited at the Moss-Thorns Gallery of Art January 31–February 21, 2020.*
DREDGE THE FOUNDRY | for Dirt and Era

Billions of years are past us and billions of years await. Shaping earthen material into sculptural abstractions is my way to sense and convey the lethargic natural progression of the planet. Fossilization, rot, dirt, plant growth, animal existence, and rust are aesthetics I endow with new perspectives and form through mold making and casting. The dichotomy between the eons of time behind us and the endless possibility of a technological future has inspired the addition of a science fiction aesthetic. To rust these computerized constructed geometric forms demonstrates how futuristic ideals will also wither away. In many ways we are currently living in the future. This show is an unearthing of the foundry, a sifting of dirt for sculptural remnant within this given point in time.
2. EXTINCTION ENTITIES (RIGHT)
Cast Aluminum, Cast Lead, Cast Iron. 15” W x 7” H x 13” D

30. UP FROM HERE (BELOW)
Cast Iron, Cast Concrete, Cast Bronze.
13” W x 9” H x 13” D
33. ENCOUNTER
Cast Iron, Cast Lead. 13” W x 7” H x 13” D
20. BRUSH (ABOVE)
Cast Aluminum, Bristles.
6” W x 13” H x 4” D

21. DUSTPAN (RIGHT)
Cast Aluminum, Wood.
9” W x 11” H x 14” D
24. VIED VINES
Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Table.
36” W x 55” H x 24” D
5. JÖRMUNGANDR (ABOVE)
Cast Bronze, Cast Concrete, Limestone.
36” W x 17” H x 5” D

6. FISSURE TABLE (RIGHT)
Cast Iron.
19” W x 43” H x 25” D
26. DEGRADATION OF THE DAY
Heat Alterations on Cast Aluminum, Wood.
48” W x 14” H x 5” D
10. IN QUICKSAND (RIGHT)
Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Barbed Wire, Steel, Screen Mesh, Sticks. 9” W x 13” H x 7” D

9. CONTINGENCY OF DIRT (BELOW)
Cast Concrete, Vinewood. 6’ W x 6’ H x 1’ D
31. PATIO SHELVING
Steel, Cast Iron, Cast Concrete, Cast Aluminum, Wood, Resin, Cholla Cactus. 69” W x 43” H x 25” D
16. SWAMP TUMULI

Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Rocks.
19” W x 68” H x 11” D
25. UNEARTH
Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Dead Plant.
13” W x 23” H x 11” D

View of sculpture with a cast iron pot (below)
4. PRESENCE
Cast Iron, Wood.
14” W x 17” H x 6” D
12. GRAVE GRAVEL
Cast Concrete, Cast Iron, Steel, Cast Plastisol, Rotational and Blow Molded Polyethylene Plastic. 8” W x 27” H x 8” D
3. PARTITION
41” W x 26” H x 7” D
27. A PLACE TO BUILD
Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Cast Iron, Steel, Plants.
35” W x 51” H x 18” D
17. AGGREGATE
Cast Iron, Wood, Metal
Grinding Disc, Steel.
9” W x 17” H x 9” D
1. WINGED SNAKE FOUNDRY GARDEN
Cast Concrete, Cast Iron, Steel, Furnace, Foundry Tools. 10' W x 10' H x 9' D

WOODY STAUFFER
1. Winged Snake Foundry Garden. Cast Concrete, Cast Iron, Steel, Furnace, Foundry Tools. 10’ W x 10’ H x 9’ D
2. Extinction Entities. Cast Aluminum, Cast Lead, Cast Iron. 15” W x 7” H x 13” D
3. Partition. Cast Iron, Asphalt, Wood, Found Objects. 41” W x 26” H x 7” D
4. Presence. Cast Iron, Wood. 14” W x 17” H x 6” D
5. Jörmungandr. Cast Bronze, Cast Concrete, Limestone. 36” W x 17” H x 5” D
6. Fissure Table. Cast Iron. 19” W x 43” H x 25” D
7. Asteroid. Cast Concrete, Steel, Cast Iron. 26” W x 31” H x 18” D
8. Atlantis Theorem. Cast Aluminum. 13” W x 14” H x 5” D
9. Contingency of Dirt. Cast Concrete, Vinewood. 6’ W x 6’ H x 1’ D
10. In Quicksand. Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Barbed Wire, Steel, Screen Mesh, Sticks. 9” W x 13” H x 7” D
11. Nature is Metal, Life is Dumb. Cast Aluminum, Cast Iron, Wood, Bag. Installation. 5’ W x 6’ H x 1’ D
12. Grave Gravel. Cast Concrete, Cast Iron, Steel, Cast Plastisol, Rotational and Blow Molded Polyethylene Plastic. 8” W x 27” H x 8” D
13. Heliograph. Cast Concrete, Steel, Cast Bronze, Cast Iron. 12” W x 64” H x 12” D
14. Upheaval. Cast Iron. 16” W x 38” H x 14” D
15. Vase. Cast Aluminum. 6” W x 15” H x 6” D
16. Swamp Tumult. Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Rocks. 19” W x 68” H x 11” D
17. Aggregate. Cast Iron, Wood, Metal Grinding Disc, Steel. 9” W x 17” H x 9” D
18. Cactus Cavity. Cast Bronze. 13” W x 14” H x 7” D
19. Dinosaurs Will Die! Cast Iron, Anodized Cast Aluminum, Steel, Cast Concrete, Wood, Air Plant. 16” W x 70” H x 27” D
20. Brush. Cast Aluminum, Bristles. 6” W x 13” H x 4” D
21. Dustpan. Cast Aluminum, Wood. 9” W x 11” H x 14” D
22. Tarheel. Cast Bronze, Cast Iron, Steel, Wire, Barrel. 12” W x 29” H x 12” D
23. Rotten Arrowhead. Cast Iron. 12” W x 17” H x 4” D
24. Vied Vines. Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Table. 36” W x 55” H x 24” D
25. Unearth. Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Dead Plant. 13” W x 23” H x 11” D
26. Degradation of the Day. Heat Alterations on Cast Aluminum, Wood. 48” W x 14” H x 5” D
27. A Place to Build. Cast Aluminum, Cast Concrete, Cast Iron, Steel, Plants. 35” W x 51” H x 18” D
28. Packaged Pig. Cast Concrete, Cast Iron, Cast Bronze, Rotational Molded Polyethylene Plastic. 7” W x 16” H x 10” D
29. Winged. Anodized Cast Aluminum, Steel, Cast Bronze, Air Plant, Rocks. 8” W x 11” H x 6” D
30. Up from Here. Cast Iron, Cast Concrete, Cast Bronze. 13” W x 9” H x 13” D
31. Patio Shelving. Steel, Cast Iron, Cast Concrete, Cast Aluminum, Wood, Resin, Cholla Cactus. 69” W x 43” H x 25” D
32. New Junk. Steel, Cast Iron, Cast Concrete. 27” W x 80” H x 19” D
33. Encounter. Cast Iron, Cast Lead. 13” W x 7” H x 13” D
Born in “The City of Lakes,” **WOODY STAUFFER** originates from Minneapolis, Minnesota. After graduating from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in 2014, he traveled across the Midwest assisting in iron pours, workshops, and performances under the guidance of Tamsie Ringler, Kelly Ludeking, and James Brenner.

Cast metal and concrete are the foundation of his sculptural practice. He moved to Hays, Kansas in the fall of 2017 to pursue his MFA in sculpture, which will be completed spring of 2020. Prior to moving to Hays Woody found time between landscaping jobs and iron pours to travel. While in the Arava Desert of Israel he learned adobe construction techniques while working at Desert Days, eco lodges. This is where he completed his first adobe dirt mold for concrete casting. Since then Woody has continued to experiment using foam packaging, dirt, and miscellaneous objects within concrete molds to create sculptural forms.

While fulfilling his MFA degree Woody expanded his skill set to include 3D printing and CNC digital design. Additionally, Woody has acquired a mobile capable furnace, making possible aluminum casting workshops as well as metalcraft commissions through his business, WSSG Designs.

Woody aspires to bring sculpture into the restful gardens, homes, and art centers of our communities—to crisscross and reconcile form and material by embracing both grit and grace. His is a visual journey steeped in sculptural discovery and whimsy. When we dig deeper into the limitless forms and arrangements of the world, we find healing. Woody hopes to further unravel these depths while finding revelation and substance in the process, pushing the mystery of life into ever expanding places.
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