

STORM KING ART CENTER

MEDIA ALERT

September 15, 2021

STORM KING ART CENTER TO HONOR ARTIST MARTIN PURYEAR AND PHILANTHROPIC NONPROFIT VIA ART FUND AT ANNUAL GALA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021
AT STORM KING ART CENTER



HOST

John P. Stern, President, Storm King Art Center

WHAT

Storm King Art Center will host its Annual Gala onsite this month, honoring artist **Martin Puryear** and nonprofit philanthropic arts organization **VIA Art Fund**, accepted by President Bridgitt Evans. The honorees will receive the Storm King Award, given in recognition of meaningful contributions in the fields of visual arts, landscape, and nature conservation.

“We are thrilled to honor Martin Puryear and VIA Art Fund with the Storm King Award,” said **John Stern**, President of Storm King. “With a career spanning five decades, Martin is a pioneer of contemporary sculpture and is one of the most important and visionary artists working today. Likewise, VIA Art Fund has played a monumental role in realizing and engaging the public with the work of some of the world’s most innovative artists, curators, and cultural institutions. We look forward to celebrating both for the first time at Storm King, surrounded by art and nature.”

Gala Co-Chairs **Courtney B. Vance** and **Joan S. Davidson** have led the success of this year’s event. This will be the first Storm King Gala for Vance, who joined the Board of Trustees in autumn 2020. The award-winning actor and President of the SAG-AFTRA Foundation is a long-time supporter of Storm King and brings unique experience in the cultural, business, and nonprofit sectors to the Art Center’s growing Board of Trustees. Joan S. Davidson, also a loyal supporter of Storm King, enjoys a rich and varied life as a city planner, student, patron of the arts, and philanthropist.

For the first time, the event will be hosted outdoors at Storm King, rather than in Manhattan. At the reception, guests will enjoy Ruinart champagne amid the Art Center’s world-renowned collection of modern and contemporary outdoor sculptures and partake in a silent auction, featuring works by preeminent artists such as Maya Lin, Virginia Overton, Ugo Rondinone, Joel Shapiro, and Arlene Shechet. Guests will also be

treated to a private viewing of the Art Center's 2021 special presentations, including the new permanent, site-specific commission by **Sarah Sze**, *Fallen Sky*, and accompanying immersive installation *Fifth Season*.

The evening will culminate with a seated, tented dinner on Museum Hill and the presentation of the Storm King Award. Artist **Doug Aitken** and **Adam Weinberg**, Alice Pratt Brown Director of the Whitney Museum of American Art, will present the Award to VIA Art Fund and Martin Puryear, respectively.

All proceeds will benefit the Art Center's work stewarding and conserving its expansive landscape, maintaining its world-class collection, and supporting contemporary artists and their most ambitious works with engaging exhibitions and educational and public programs.

WHERE

Storm King Art Center, 1 Museum Road, New Windsor, NY 12553

WHEN

Saturday, September 25, 2021

5PM: Reception, including Silent Auction and Exhibition Viewings

7PM: Dinner and Storm King Award Presentation

Rain or Shine

ATTIRE

Hudson Valley Chic

HONOREES

Martin Puryear; VIA Art Fund, accepted by President Bridgitt Evans

HONORARY CHAIRS

Agnes Gund, Cathy and Peter Halstead, Rashid Johnson, Jo Carole and Ronald S. Lauder, Arlene Shechet, Tavares Strachan, Sarah Sze

GALA CHAIRS

Joan S. Davidson and Courtney B. Vance

VICE CHAIRS

Amy and David Abrams, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Joan S. Davidson, Roberta and Steven Denning, Evans Capital, Agnes Gund, Cathy and Peter Halstead, Miguel E. Hennessy, Debby and Rocco Landesman, Stephen Meringoff, Jennifer and Malcolm Nolen, Thomas A. and Georgina T. Russo, Stephen Trevor and Stephanie Hunt, VIA Art Fund

SPONSORED BY

Ruinart

For the full Benefit Committee, including Benefactors, Sponsors, Patrons, Supporters, and Friends, please visit stormking.org/gala.

SILENT AUCTION

Storm King's silent auction will feature original artworks by Maya Lin, Virginia Overton, Ugo Rondinone, Wangechi Mutu, Joel Shapiro, and Arlene Shechet, among others. Online bidding, powered by Artsy, will be open September 23 – October 7.

TICKETS

For ticketing information, please visit stormking.org/gala or contact Tara Kosloski, Associate Director, Special Events and Partnerships, at t.kosloski@stormkingartcenter.org.

ABOUT STORM KING ART CENTER

Storm King Art Center is a 500-acre outdoor museum located in New York's Hudson Valley, where visitors experience large-scale sculpture and site-specific commissions under open sky. Since 1960, Storm King has been dedicated to stewarding the hills, meadows, and forests of its site and surrounding landscape. Building on the visionary thinking of its founders, Storm King supports artists and some of their most ambitious works. Changing exhibitions, programming, and seasons offer discoveries with every visit.

Storm King's 2021 season runs through December 12, 2021. For more information, please visit stormking.org.

Join the conversation on social media by mentioning **Storm King Art Center** and using the hashtags #StormKing and #StormKingGala when posting.

Facebook: [StormKingArtCenter](https://www.facebook.com/StormKingArtCenter) | **Instagram:** [@stormkingartcenter](https://www.instagram.com/stormkingartcenter) | **Twitter:** [@StormKingArtCtr](https://twitter.com/StormKingArtCtr)

TRANSPORTATION & ACCOMMODATIONS

- Local accommodations are listed [here](#).
- Round trip transportation, departing New York City Saturday afternoon and returning from Storm King Saturday night, will be available. Tickets can be purchased [here](#), and more details will be sent closer to the Gala date.

HEALTH & SAFETY

All confirmed guests are required to submit proof of full vaccination in advance of attending the Gala. All attendees must wear a mask inside any indoor spaces (including the Museum Building, restrooms, and elevators). Event requirements are subject to change based on then current Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and New York State guidelines.

IMAGE CREDIT

Left: General view of Storm King Art Center's 2015 Summer Solstice Celebration. Photo by Noa Griffel/BFA.com. Courtesy of Storm King Art Center. **Right:** Mark di Suvero, *She*, 1977–78. Private Collection. ©Mark di Suvero. Courtesy of the artist and Spacetime C.C., New York. Photo by Vladimir Weinstein/BFA.com.

MEDIA CONTACTS

May Mansour / FITZ & CO / mmansour@fitzandco.art / 646.589.0923
Matthew Tom / FITZ & CO / mtom@fitzandco.art / 646.589.0945