

Alfred University professor Coral Lambert guest sculptor at Festival of High Temperatures

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ALFRED, NY Coral Lambert, associate professor of sculpture at Alfred University, will participate this week at an event in Poland celebrating art created in extreme heat.

Lambert has been invited as a guest sculptor for the 11th annual Festival of High Temperatures, scheduled for June 22-24 at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Wroclaw, Poland. She will give an artist presentation at “Art Speaks with Fire,” a conference being held as part of the festival.

The Festival of High Temperatures invites artists from around the world share their knowledge and experience with other experts of “hot art.” Renowned masters of work with fire include artists from around the world specializing in iron, glass and ceramics. The festival includes presentations and demonstrations, workshops and exhibitions.

Lambert will give a presentation on her work, discuss her experience with art made at high temperatures and produce new work during her residency at the festival. Upon arrival at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Wroclaw, she will carry out research to create two site-specific “glyphs” in cast iron and granite. In architecture, a glyph is an ornamental carved groove or channel; in Lambert’s work, she will fill this carved channel with molten iron at 2700 degrees Fahrenheit. The act of casting the iron into the stone explores forces of nature, including effects of heat and time when combining elemental materials.

She will title the work *Nature’s Speech* and will seek to address the darker issues related to Earth’s resources and our insatiable hunger to speed up the work of nature. The resulting castings are tangible nature studies, either remaining inseparable in the stone mold or emerging raw and elemental as if raised from the earth’s depths where something mysterious and magical has taken place. Students from the Academy of Fine Arts and Design will assist Lambert in the casting.

“I am looking forward to engaging with new peers across disciplines with diverse backgrounds,” Lambert commented. “It is extremely important as an educator of fine art to re-energize one’s own studio practice and I am thankful for this great opportunity. The program looks full on and very intense so it will most certainly be a melting pot of creativity!”

The Festival of High Temperatures, as well as the “Art Speaks with Fire” conference are organized by the Academy of Art and Design in Wroclaw, Departments of Painting and Sculpture, and Ceramics and Glass, and the Association of Polish Artists.