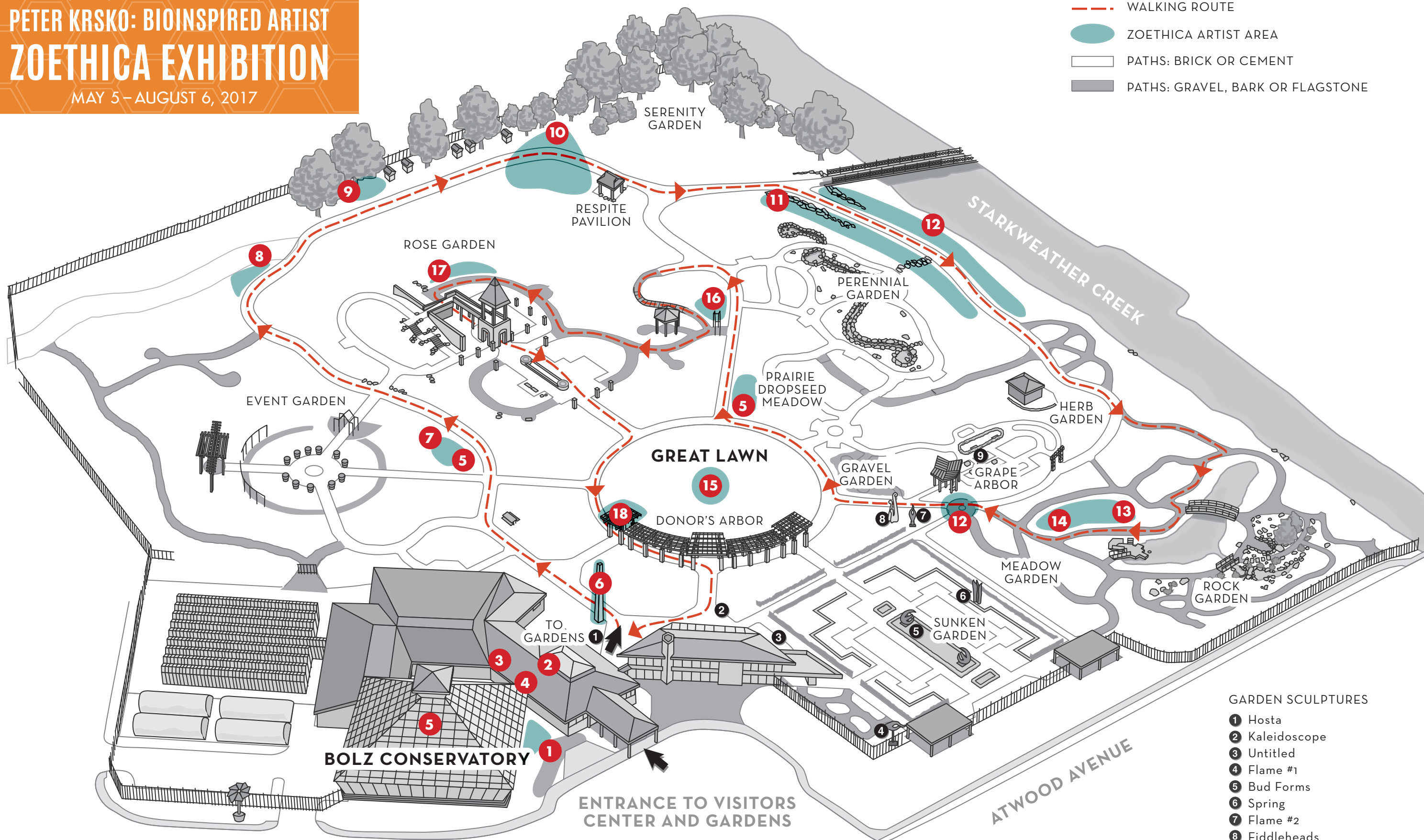


University of Wisconsin–Madison Arts Institute
Interdisciplinary Artist in Residence Spring 2017

PETER KRSKO: BIOINSPIRED ARTIST ZOETHICA EXHIBITION

MAY 5 – AUGUST 6, 2017



ZOETHICA EXHIBITION | PETER KRSKO: BIOINSPIRED ARTIST | May 5—August 6, 2017

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1

Artist: Evan Eifler
Title: “Solar Rhythm Visualized”

Materials: Polymer tubing, clamps, recycled bottles, latex balloons

Description: The idea behind the piece is to mimic flowers by creating a kinetic sculpture that uses properties of nature to open and close with the light of the sun. The bifurcating tubes radiate from a central balloon, each ending in a recycled glass bottle. As the sun warms the airtight system throughout the day, the air within the bottles and tubing expands, inflating the balloon.

2

Artist: Peter Krsko
Title: “Inner Foam”

Materials: Steel

Description: The lines suggest the boundaries between the cells in a compartmentalized space, such as bubbles in foam, cells in biological tissue or vesicles. External stimuli or intercellular disequilibria choreograph their shape.

3

Artist: Olivia Sanderfoot
Title: “Shattered Landscapes”

Materials: Upcycled window frame, recycled wine bottles, glue

Description: Habitat fragmentation is a major threat to thousands of species. Unintentionally, humans have destroyed much of the intact habitat that plants and animals rely on for their survival. This piece was created to illustrate the violent nature of habitat fragmentation and its effect on ecological communities.

4

Artist: Kayla Pfeiffer-Mundt
Title: “Slime Mold Pandemic”

Video Installation

Description: Infectious disease has been with humanity for millennia, and will likely continue to be a problem far into the future. Time-lapse photography shows a slime mold (representing an infectious pathogen) spreading across a map of the world. The purpose of this art piece is to show that in an interconnected and globalized world, we are all vulnerable to infectious disease risks.

5

Artist: Katie Schofield
Title: “Turkey Tails” (multiple locations)

Materials: Synthetic baler twine

Description: This crocheted installation is inspired by turkey tail fungi, an ever present sight in the woods. Fungi are an important part of our ecosystem, breaking down dead organic material into forms other organisms can use, helping to transform trees into soil in slow, small movements.

6

Artist: Margaret Wiley
Title: “Broken Mirror”

Materials: Acrylic mirror, plywood

Description: Mirror neurons fire both when an individual performs an action and observes an action. When mirror neurons do not function typically, like in individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), the ability to perceive others is inhibited. The distorted mirror figure prevents us from seeing a clear reflection; this represents the difficulty one with ASD may have in observing and learning from others.

7

Artist: Peter Krsko
Title: “Renewal”

Materials: Dimensional lumber, lath

Description: The materials intended for the construction industry are made by harvesting trees and milling them into sterile, right-angled forms. Built during the time of spring growth and inspired by long walks in the woods, the lumber and lath are returned back to their original organic form.

8

Artists: Rebecca Green and Leo Steiner
Title: “Neon Neurons”

Materials: Painted steel

Description: This piece was inspired by neurological development. As the brain develops, axons become increasingly myelinated, which allows for better communication between neurons. The brain doesn’t stop developing until early to mid-20s, so as you walk along the path, you will notice the amount of myelin increasing as if you were walking through a developing brain.

9

Artists: Halley Feil and Kevin Raymer
Title: “Conch Out”

Materials: Dimensional lumber

Description: This unique structure represents the acidification process happening to organisms who form shells out of calcium carbonate in the oceans. Due to excess CO₂ in the atmosphere that the ocean is absorbing, chemical imbalances are causing shells and corals to disintegrate. The goal is to spread awareness by creating an interactive body of what will soon be no more, if changes in carbon emission usage do not decrease.

10

Artist: Christopher Jossart
Title: “Non-Euclidean Growth”

Materials: PVC pipes, dimensional lumber, concrete, canvas

Description: This non-Euclidean growth demonstrated by the concrete folds illustrate what happens as life grows larger as the space it is in. The folds mimic the surfaces that can be found on the shells, petals and other tissues in nature.

11

Artist: Dan Steinhilber
Title: untitled

Materials: Lumber, bale wrap

Description: Any fantasy I may have had to make some marble statuary for a garden changed with the improvisation of cytoskeleton structure, silk worm wrapping and the natural “behavior” of these unnatural materials used in agriculture.

12

Artists: Various
Title: untitled (multiple locations)

Materials: PVC pipes, bale wrap

Description: When Dan Steinhilber visited UW—Madison in March, he led a workshop presenting his sculptural techniques and methods. These organic forms are the result of that exercise.

13

Artist: Peter Krsko
Title: “Stabilimentia “

Materials: Stretch wrap

Description: Spiders create decorative elements within their webs to attract prey, to camouflage, to signal and communicate. After studying the spiders’ movement and repeating it by stretching thin plastic, this form happened.

14

Artist: Jessi Havens
Title: “Unfurling”

Materials: Steel

Description: In great anticipation, a fern stalk is uncoiling. Something more is to come. Yet, the final form is already imprinted in this geometric complexity and regularity.

15

Artist: Joel Cryer
Title: “Hyperbolic Paraboloid Trellis”

Materials: Steel, synthetic baler twine

Description: The hyperbolic paraboloid is a plane with two main curves diverging in three dimensions. These paraboloids and their mathematical kin are visible in nature in the crooks of branches, the structures of certain flowers and the ridged growth forms of corals and some fungi.

16

Artist: Peter Krsko
Title: “Monarda”

Materials: Steel

Description: In late January, during a hike through a thawing marsh, I came across dry plants with the remnants of what must have been a flower a few months earlier. Back in the studio I was intrigued to rebuild the dead flower by attaching truncated cones to each other, until the spherical surface emerged.

17

Artists: Margaret Seybold and Jessi Havens
Title: “Growing”

Materials: PVC pipes, recycled bottles, living plants

Description: Every tree functions as a colossal distribution network that pumps thousands of gallons of water and sap throughout its body. In buildings, PVC pipes are used to distribute water. Here, they replace the trunk and branches of trees to support the plants living at their ends.

18

Artist: Kimberly Gromek
Title: “Apoptosis”

Materials: Wood, fishing line

Description: Apoptosis is programmed cell death that is a normal part of an organism’s development. Current research is looking to utilize this controlled mechanism of death as defense against viruses and other foreign intruders. To achieve apoptosis, the cell self-destructs from the inside out, destroying its own structure, but not leaking it to the surrounding environment.

