FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Beverly Fishman Presents Two New, Major Works at the MSU Broad Art Museum to Celebrate Museum’s 10th Anniversary

East Lansing, MI – An artist of unparalleled vision, Detroit-based artist Beverly Fishman was selected by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum (MSU Broad Art Museum) to produce a major new work as part of the museum’s 10th anniversary celebrations in 2022. The two new murals that resulted from this commission are at the heart of the artist’s solo presentation, Beverly Fishman: Recovery, on view from Jan. 15–Aug. 7, 2022.

This major commission will inhabit one of the museum’s largest and most iconic spaces, the Julie and Edward Minskoff Gallery. Taking into consideration the unique qualities of the Zaha Hadid-designed architecture of the MSU Broad Art Museum, Fishman’s two new, signature works dialogue with the geometries, lines, and volumes of the gallery, creating a truly unique artistic encounter for museum visitors.
“With the 10th anniversary of the museum upon us, I couldn’t imagine a better way to celebrate and revel in the many successes of the museum than to work with the stellar Beverly Fishman, a long-standing Michigan artist and alumna of the program,” explains Steven L. Bridges, Senior Curator and Director of Curatorial Affairs at the MSU Broad Art Museum. “With Recovery, Fishman invites us to consider all the challenges we have faced in recent times, but also the perseverance of the human spirit, driven by creativity and ingenuity. The vibrancy and radiating colors of her new works will bathe visitors in an extraordinary phenomenological experience. We are grateful to Fishman for joining us on this special occasion and illuminating the museum and this particular moment in history in only the way she and her artwork can.”

In the face of a global pandemic, along with the ever-pressing need for wider social, racial, and environmental reckonings in the United States and abroad, it is all the more important to seek out moments of solace. For decades Fishman has adopted the language of abstraction to explore the body, issues of identity, and contemporary culture. Her career-long investigation draws upon medical imaging, pharmaceutical designs, and the history of modernist painting. Awash in color and light, the new commissions surround visitors with an uplifting and awe-inspiring experience.

Fishman was selected for this anniversary exhibition for several important reasons. She is an alumna of the MSU Broad Art Museum’s exhibition program, having mounted a solo exhibition at the museum in 2013, not long after the museum’s inauguration. The commissioned artworks also join two significant paintings by the artist already in the permanent collection of the museum, which will also be on view. With Fishman’s return to the MSU Broad Art Museum, her celebration of light, form, color, and space will punctuate the anniversary year while also highlighting the incredible work and career of one of Michigan’s own.

Celebrating the museum’s 10th anniversary, the 2022 roster of exhibitions highlights the museum’s permanent collections and its remarkable architecture. In addition to Beverly Fishman: Recovery, the MSU Broad Art Museum’s spring exhibitions include Kahlo Without Borders—seeking to connect museum visitors to the intimate and creative world of Frida Kahlo, particularly towards the end of her life, and presenting for the first time to the public clinical files from this period—and History Told Slant: Seventy-seven Years of Collecting Art at MSU—an expansive view of the collection at the museum and an exploration of the role of art in spreading awareness and cultural competency throughout our communities and the world. All three exhibitions are on view Jan. 15–Aug. 7, 2022.

Exhibition Credits: Beverly Fishman: Recovery is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University and curated by Steven L. Bridges, senior curator and director of curatorial affairs. Support for this exhibition is provided by the Eli and Edythe Broad Endowed Exhibitions Fund and Emma Grace Holmes Endowment.

The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad Art Museum) connects people with art through experiences that inspire curiosity and inquiry. Presenting exhibitions and programs that engage diverse communities around issues of local
relevance and global significance, the MSU Broad advances the University values of quality, inclusion, and connectivity. Opened on November 10, 2012, the museum was designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Zaha Hadid and named in honor of Eli and Edythe Broad, longtime supporters of the university who provided the lead gift for its creation.

Michigan State University has been working to advance the common good in uncommon ways for more than 150 years. One of the top research universities in the world, MSU focuses its vast resources on creating solutions to some of the world’s most pressing challenges, while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 200 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.


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