

WHITNEY

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MEDIA ALERT



Virginia Overton, *Sculpture Gardens*. Installation view, 2016. ©Virginia Overton; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Photography by Ronald Amstutz.

VIRGINIA OVERTON: WINTER GARDEN

October 28, 2016- February 5, 2017

NEW YORK, October 13, 2016— Virginia Overton (b. 1971) creates exhibitions in response to the natural and manmade environments in which she works, often overlaying these sites with diverse references ranging from the history of modern art to her upbringing in rural Tennessee. *Winter Garden*, which will be presented on the fifth floor outdoor gallery, expands upon her installation featured there this summer, which explored the concept of the sculpture garden through a system of windmills pumping air into ponds filled with thriving aquatic plants. The exhibition will be on view October 28, 2016 through February 5, 2017.

To reflect the change of season, Overton has reimagined the "sculpture garden" as a sonic rather than botanic environment. Her practice often involves the repurposing of materials, and the new installation takes elements from the summer's and redefines each of their functions. Emptied of water, the overturned containers become natural amplifiers for the sounds generated from the wind as it is pumped from the windmills through pneumatic tubing. By activating these materials, Overton creates zones of unusual aural experience throughout the outdoor site.

Virginia Overton: Winter Garden is organized by Scott Rothkopf, Deputy Director for Programs and

Nancy and Steve Crown Family Chief Curator, and Laura Phipps, assistant curator.

About Virginia Overton

Throughout her career Virginia Overton (b. 1971, Nashville, TN) has used the languages of physicality, displacement, and minimalism in her sculptures, videos, photography, and installations. Overton creates exhibitions in response to the natural and manmade environments in which she works, often overlaying these sites with diverse references ranging from the history of modern art to her personal background in rural Tennessee. She recently created thirteen site-reactive sculptures and a video for the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield, CT, which will be on view through February 2017. Overton has also had recent solo shows at Storm King Art Center, New Windsor, NY; Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, FL; Kunsthalle Bern, Bern, Switzerland; and The Power Station, Dallas, TX.

Exhibition Support:

Generous support for *Virginia Overton: Winter Garden* is provided by Bob and Pam Goergen.

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists at a time when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for more than eighty years. The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists themselves, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.