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**THE CENTER FOR ART IN WOOD AND NEXTFAB ANNOUNCE
THE 2022 WINTER RESIDENCY PROGRAM FELLOW**

Philadelphia, PA | December 2, 2021 – [The Center for Art in Wood](#) and [NextFab](#), have selected sculptor [Robert Aiosa](#) for their second annual [Winter Residency Program](#). Launched in 2021, the program is designed for artists based in the Greater Philadelphia region who work in the medium of wood and demonstrate technical proficiency with woodworking equipment. The residency will run from January 3 through February 28, 2022, and culminates in a solo exhibition at NextFab (1800 N. American Street) on March 4, 2022.

The Winter Residency Program is a collaboration between the Center and NextFab, a network of membership-based maker spaces. Each year, the two organizations assemble a jury of makers and educators to award one fellowship to an artist in the region who works either solely in wood or other materials in combination with wood. The fellow receives a stipend for project materials and access to NextFab’s workshop space. Reflecting the Center and NextFab’s support of environmental stewardship, reclaimed wood must comprise at least 50 percent of the fellow’s work during the residency.

“The second Winter Residency brings excitement for new perspectives and approaches to art in wood and sustainability in our city,” said **Jennifer-Navva Milliken**, Center for Art in Wood’s Executive Director and Chief Curator. “This year’s fellow, Robert Aiosa, has developed a solid body of work that connects the built environment with the unpredictable, ineffable world of nature. His proposal continues this line of thinking with a focus on Philadelphia architecture and encounters between human habitability and nature in this urbanized landscape.”

Aiosa is known for creating site-specific installations that employ a mix of fine and construction-grade materials with highly detailed carving techniques. Aiosa’s work explores the built environment and its social, economic, and environmental impacts. During his residency, Aiosa will design a body of work inspired by historical window designs, such as fanlight, transom windows, and spider web muntins.

He earned his Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, before joining the staff of renowned print atelier, Graphic Studio, at the University of South Florida as a Research Associate and Sculpture Fabricator. Aiosa’s work has been shown throughout the United States, including the Sanger Gallery in Key West, FL, the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg, FL, and the Orlando Museum of Art.

The Winter Residency Exhibition will go on display at NextFab from March 4 to May 22, 2022. Following the exhibition’s opening, the Center and NextFab will host an Artist Talk with Aiosa on March 10, where he’ll share insights into his creative process.

Photos: Click [HERE](#).

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About Center for Art in Wood:

The Center for Art in Wood interprets, nurtures, and champions creative engagement and expansion of art, craft, and design in wood to enhance the public's understanding and appreciation of it. Founded and sited in Philadelphia, the Center for Art in Wood serves a local and international community. It has built its reputation by providing opportunities for makers and visitors to experience craft directly, through participatory programming; seminal exhibitions and documentation; and the growth, conservation, exhibition, and care of its permanent collection. The Center's practice of keeping these resources free and available to the public emphasizes its commitment to building a democratic and inclusive community. Visit centerforartinwood.org to learn more.

About NextFab

NextFab is a network of membership-based makerspaces that provide access to tools, technology, education, events, and services for makers and creatives. They offer a variety of education and startup programs, as well as professional design, production, and placemaking services for whatever your fabrication needs. Visit nextfab.com to learn more.