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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: APRIL 26, 2023

CONTACT PERSON: EMILY COLUCCI PEAK, VISUAL ARTS COORDINATOR

SUBJECT: WENDY CALMAN AT THE THYEN-CLARK CULTURAL CENTER

EXHIBIT DATES: MAY 4 – JULY 23, 2023

Jasper Community Arts is pleased to present the work of Bloomington, IN installation artist, Wendy Calman for the months of May, June, and July 2023 at the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center.

Calman's installation exhibit is a display of patinaed brass, digital photography, cloth, brass, copper, aluminum, lead, plastic, wood, acrylic paint, computer components, motors, light, speakers, handmade mechanical elements.

The piece, titled 'Ties', is a mixed-media kinetic construction incorporating sound and active viewer participation, presenting an environment that is entered into by visitors, as if guests to an outdoor shrine. The work derives its principal form from Tibetan Buddhist temple banners that hang in the Potala Palace in Lhasa, Tibet, and the ancient Buddhist monument of Borobudur in Central Java, Indonesia. Its overarching theme is the illusory and temporary nature of our existence, where "things are not always what they appear to be."

Calman states, "In religious practice as in other philosophical thought, reflection gives way to revelation and visualization on many levels that may change the way that we look at our lives, our lessons, our families, our inevitable end as well as our possible rebirth into some new form of existence. Ties is a kinetic construction that presents a sequence of reflections and revelations of changing imagery and sound, giving physical form to the work's universal concepts and the deeply personal contexts that engage these issues. Influenced by Buddhist, Vietnamese Cao Dai, and Hindu temple art forms and architecture from Tibet, Southeast Asia and India, the title Ties with its accompanying artifacts commemorate the death of my father, a dentist, and a lifelong sailor, in the use of 96 of his neckties and other belongings that serve as "relics" associated with both our psychic and mundane natures."

Calman holds a Bachelor's Degree in Art History from the University of Pittsburgh, a Master's Degree of Fine Arts in Printmaking and a Master's Degree in Education Art from Tyler School of Art, Temple University. Calman also took additional studies at the Tyler School of Art in Rome, Italy.

Calman's solo exhibition will be on display from May 4th through July 23rd, 2023. Opening Reception will take place on Thursday, May 4th, from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Wendy will join us for the evening and will give a Gallery Talk at 5:30 pm.

The galleries at the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center, located at 100 3rd Avenue, Suite A, Jasper, IN 47546, are open to the public Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, and Sunday from noon to 3:00 pm. School groups, clubs, and students are welcome. Admission is free. Donations appreciated.

For more information, please call 812-482-3070. Jasper Community Arts is a department of the City of Jasper. JCA is supported in part by Friends of the Arts, Inc., the Indiana Arts Commission, The Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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