

# News Release



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## **The Art Program**

Artworks unified around themes of innovation, sustainability and globalism help inspire employees, guests and the community. Artists Kendall Buster, Odili Donald Odita and the collaborative of Jennifer Riley and Emily Kennerk are among those whose work was commissioned for the new building.

In addition to the three site-specific commissions, more than 60 individual works of art are displayed throughout the building. The artworks range from a large painting in the lobby by Valerie Jaudon—a New York-based artist from the Pattern and Decoration movement in the 1970s—to lithographs, woodcuts, screenprints and etchings by major artists Nancy Graves, Suzanne Caporael, Buckminster Fuller, Jonathan Borofsky and Dan Walsh, to significant work by Indiana-based artists such as Dorothy Stites Alig, David Morrison, Greg Whitaker and Marco Querin, among others. Examples of international artists include Julian Opie, Zoe Keramea, and Niko Luoma. The program contains a spectrum of artists and media including painting, photography, printmaking, drawing, fiber and collage

**Kendall Buster** is an internationally renowned artist based in Richmond, Virginia. Inspired by a Cummins engine, she has stretched circular aluminum frames with white industrial grade shade cloth to create a hanging sculpture for the lobby. This lightweight, uplifting, and elegant sculpture is suspended from the lobby ceiling. A focal piece for visitors, it is designed to evoke the wonder of complex systems and to inspire innovation.

**Odili Donald Odita** is a Nigerian-born artist who was raised in the Midwest and is known for his site-specific wall paintings. Running the height of the building, his wall painting “The Wisdom of Trees” was inspired by the artist’s visit to the Miller House in Columbus, Indiana, and Cummins commitment to sustainability and the environment. From the plaza, the six-floor painting becomes a spine in the building rooting its viewers in the space, the environment and the Cummins commitment to sustainability.

**Jennifer Riley** and **Emily Kennerk** were commissioned to create an installation viewable at street level along Market Street. Jennifer Riley is a painter who splits her time between Columbus, Indiana, and New York City. Emily Kennerk is a sculptor and installation artist based in Central Indiana. Together they have been working on a series of artworks entitled “Big Bright Steel.” Their work is composed of brightly painted steel remnants from a Cummins manufacturing partner, Noblitt Fabricators of Columbus, Indiana. Instead of becoming scrap, the steel plates have been repurposed and used as sculptural material by the artists in an

installation that abstractly references Cummins global network and its commitment to sustainability, the environment and its partners in manufacturing and distribution.

**About Mindy Taylor Ross and Art Strategies**

Mindy Taylor Ross is an independent curator and owner of Art Strategies, a fine art consulting agency based in Central Indiana. She curated and produced the art program for Cummins Indy. Ross provides curatorial, strategic planning, and project management services to individuals, not-for-profit organizations, government entities, and corporations that want to incorporate fine art into their public and private spaces. She has curated and produced large-scale exhibitions in public spaces such as *Tom Otterness in Indianapolis*; *Julian Opie: Signs*; *Chakaia Booker: Mass Transit*; and *George Rickey: An Evolution*. From 2005 to 2012, she served as the Curator and Public Art Project Manager for the Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene & Marilyn Glick. Concurrent to serving as the curator for the new Cummins Indy building, she curated the art program for Cummins new LiveWell Center in Columbus, Indiana, produced the public sculpture exhibition entitled *Don Gummer: Back Home Again*.

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