

Observer-Dispatch

The Mohawk Valley's Information Source

Posted Jan 28, 2010 @ 01:08 PM

Artist talk to kick off “Shapes for Hamilton”

HAMILTON —

Artist Allan McCollum, the 2010 Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundation Distinguished Artist-in-Residence, will present a talk at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3 in the Golden Auditorium, Little Hall, Colgate University. The talk kicks off the university's Institute for the Creative and Performing Arts and the Department of Art and Art History's special program “Shapes for Hamilton.”

Over the past several years, the McCollum has developed The Shapes Project, a system that can produce 31,000,000,000 unique two-dimensional “shapes,” more than enough to create an individual shape for every person on the planet.

With Shapes for Hamilton the artist will create a unique shape for each inhabitant of the geo-political entity of the Town of Hamilton — an extraordinary community-wide collaboration between the artist, the townspeople and the students, staff and faculty of Colgate University. At the conclusion of the project, which will include an exhibition of the complete set of the nearly 6000 shapes at Colgate's Clifford Gallery, each resident will be invited, without obligation, to collect their own shape, provided free of charge and signed by the artist.

McCollum was born in California in 1944, and lives and works in New York. He has spent over thirty years exploring how objects achieve public and personal meaning in a world constituted in mass production, most recently collaborating with home-based businesses in Shapes from Maine (2009) at Friedrich Petzel Gallery in New York. He has produced public art projects in the United States and Europe, and his works are held in nearly seventy major art museum collections worldwide.

To find out more about Shapes for Hamilton, Allan McCollum and the ICPA at Colgate University please contact akowalski@colgate.edu or visit <http://artsinstitute.colgate.edu/>. All events are free and open to the public.