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‘New Exhibition celebrates our connection to nature’

Between Us and The Sun: Beautiful Beings Be opens November 15th at The MAX

MERIDIAN, Miss. (November 1, 2022) – A deep-rooted love of nature inspired art featured in the newest exhibition at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. Created by Memphis-born, and Mississippi-based artist Angi Cooper, *Between Us and The Sun: Beautiful Beings Be* is an exploration of mother nature and the similarities between human beings and wildlife. The artist seeks to spark consciousness and mindfulness of our natural environment and inspire visitors to create better practices to sustain it.

Cooper invites the viewer to ponder the connections we share with all life forms on planet Earth. She studies and explores the many colors and textures found in everyday life, noting similarities such as the shape of the bronchi in our lungs with the lines of plant roots reaching through the soil. “Life on planet Earth is interwoven. One thing begets another and so it goes for all of us, under the sun, the moon, and the stars,” the artist says. With an emphasis in design, Cooper builds her compositions by weaving science, symbolism, allegory, humor or social commentary into the artform.



Cooper’s art, photography and writing have been featured in national and local publications. With artwork in private and public collections across the country, Cooper has also completed public art commissions for the Kroger Store Cafe’ (Hernando, Miss), DeltaARTS (West Memphis, Ark), St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital (Memphis), and the Germantown Community Library (Germantown, Tenn).

Cooper is a master teaching artist and shares her love of the art process with K-12 students and adult learners in regional artist-in-residence programs, some of which include community collaboration mural projects. She graduated with honors from the University of Memphis with a BFA in Graphic Design.

Between Us and The Sun: Beautiful Beings Be will be on display at The MAX from November 15, 2022-March 12, 2023. To find more of her work, visit her website at:

www.angicooper.com. The special exhibit is sponsored by longstanding museum supporters Buck and Barbara Thomas of Meridian.

Related programming: To Be Determined; Check back with The MAX to find out more information via telephone 601-581-1550 or online at msarts.org.

About The MAX

The Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience explores the state's creative legacies in one immersive attraction. Come discover the Mississippi roots of some of the world's arts and entertainment icons – Elvis Presley, Oprah Winfrey, B.B. King, Faith Hill, Sela Ward, Margaret Walker, Eudora Welty, and Jim Henson, to name just a few.

Admission to the special exhibit is free with regular museum admission. The MAX is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The museum is located at the corner of Sela Ward Parkway (22nd Avenue) and Front Street, overlooking the railroad at the edge of Meridian's historic downtown. Street parking is available, with shops and restaurants within walking distance. For more information visit msarts.org or call 601-581-1550.

Image credit: *The Steward II*, Angi Cooper, 2019, acrylic and paper on board.

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