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816.561.4000 Telephone  
816.561.4011 Facsimile

The  
Nelson-Atkins  
Museum  
of Art

4525 Oak Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Shuttlecarts Debut As Mobile Sculpture**

***Artist Peregrine Honig Unveils Creations During Aug. 12 Event***

Kansas City, MO. Aug. 8, 2011—How would you like to take a ride in a gilded bird cage? Or feel like royalty being driven in a filigreed chariot? The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art commissioned artist Peregrine Honig to dress up a pair of Shuttlecarts that move Museum visitors from one end of the building to the other. The motorized carts, now called Gilded Cage and Sweet Chariot, were first introduced to Museum visitors in April, but they have now been transformed by Honig.

“It’s significant that we are employing a local artist’s creativity at the Nelson-Atkins, where creativity is celebrated every day,” said Julián Zugazagoitia, CEO & Director of the Nelson-Atkins. “Peregrine’s unique sensibility is ideal for this project, which injects a feeling of fun and whimsy into the Museum.”

Honig was a runner up on Bravo’s *Work of Art: The Next Great Artist* in 2010, the first artist reality television program. But she initially made a name



for herself when a set of her prints was purchased by the Whitney Museum of American Art, establishing her as the youngest living artist to be included in the permanent collection. Honig's sculptures, imagery and texts explore themes of sexual vulnerability, trends in disease and social hierarchies.



“Gilded Cage and Sweet Chariot pull from Mardi Gras floats,” said Honig. “The colors and material draw from circus culture, carnival rides, and commercialized interpretations of European royalty . I look forward to seeing these mobile sculptures at play with the architecture and art of the Nelson-Atkins Museum. I was honored to be given such creative freedom by Julián and I am excited to reveal something both beautiful and functional for the expansion.”

Honig was attracted to the Shuttlecart project because she enjoys making art that surprises people, and was also intrigued by the idea of visitors climbing into a work of art. The Shuttlecarts were made possible through the generosity of R. Crosby Kemper, Jr., a trustee of UMB Bank. Three years of funding for the

carts was approved by The Carter Community Trust on Kemper’s recommendation.

“Crosby wholeheartedly embraced the idea of the Shuttlecarts and was instrumental in securing the donation that made them possible,” said Zugazagoitia. “And now Peregrine has made them fun and whimsical.”

The transformed Shuttlecarts will be revealed at “The Unveiling” in the Bloch Lobby on Aug.12 from 6–8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. A pink champagne toast will follow the christening of the fanciful Shuttlecarts. A cash bar will be available.

*Photos: Mike Sinclair*

Shuttlecarts supported by E. Kemper Carter and Anna Curry Carter Community Memorial Trust, UMB

## **The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art**

The Nelson-Atkins in Kansas City is recognized nationally and internationally as one of America’s finest art museums. The Nelson-Atkins serves the community by providing access and insight into its renowned collection of more than 33,500 art objects and is best known for its Asian art, European and American paintings, photography, modern sculpture, and new American Indian and

Egyptian galleries. Housing a major art research library and the Ford Learning Center, the Museum is a key educational resource for the region. The institution-wide transformation of the Nelson-Atkins has included the 165,000-square-foot Bloch Building expansion and renovation of the original 1933 Nelson-Atkins Building.

The Nelson-Atkins is located at 45<sup>th</sup> and Oak Streets, Kansas City, MO. Hours are Wednesday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; Thursday/Friday, 10 a.m.–9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sunday, Noon–5 p.m. Admission to the Museum is free to everyone. For Museum information, phone 816.751.1ART (1278) or visit [nelson-atkins.org](http://nelson-atkins.org).

**For media interested in receiving further information, please contact:**

Kathleen Leighton, Communications and Media Relations Officer  
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art  
816.751.1321  
[kleighton@nelson-atkins.org](mailto:kleighton@nelson-atkins.org)