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CONCEPTUAL ARTIST TAVARES STRACHAN JOINS ALLEN INSTITUTE AS FIRST ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Renowned artist will collaborate with Institute scientists during coming year

SEATTLE, WASH. — March 21, 2018 — The Allen Institute today announced that conceptual artist Tavares Strachan has joined the Allen Institute as the Institute's first Artist-in-Residence. As a globally-recognized artist who works on a massive scale from space to the arctic to living systems and human design, Strachan often explores the intersection of art, science, and the environment, making the unseen visible.

As Artist-in-Residence, he will have interactions with scientists across multiple fields – from neuroscientists and cell biologists, to bioengineers and computational modelers. In addition, Tavares expects to interface with many leading technology organizations in the Seattle region.

"It's a great opportunity to interact with scientists at the cutting edge of technology in their fields. Having access to that kind of science just doesn't happen in regular life," says Strachan.

Tavares will be hosted by The Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group, a division of the Allen Institute dedicated to exploring the landscape of bioscience to identify and fund pioneers around the globe with ideas that advance knowledge and make the world better.

"Art and science both rely on design, imagination, and inspiration. Having a world-class conceptual artist like Tavares at the Institute will allow for mutual exploration of new territory. Tavares is accustomed to crossing boundaries, and has an instinct for direct lines to provocative actions that have produced works of great beauty and reflectiveness," says Tom Skalak, Ph.D., Executive Director of The Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group.

Strachan will be on site at the Institute each month throughout 2018. As he aims to understand how the Institute addresses the complexities of bioscience, he will also share his knowledge and experience of expressing complex contextual ideas through play and exploration.

"Like scientists, I approach the world and process information through observation," says Strachan. "I am excited about the prospect of what the next year will bring and the creativity and cross pollination that will come through my interactions at this transformative science Institute."

About the Allen Institute

The Allen Institute is an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit research organization founded by philanthropist and visionary Paul G. Allen. The Allen Institute is dedicated to answering some of the biggest questions in bioscience and accelerating research worldwide. The Institute is a recognized leader in large-scale research with a commitment to an open science model. Its research institutes include the Allen Institute for Brain Science, launched in 2003, and the Allen Institute for Cell Science, launched in 2014. In 2016, the Allen Institute expanded its reach with the launch of The Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group, which identifies pioneers with new ideas to expand the boundaries of knowledge and make the world better. For more information, visit www.alleninstitute.org.

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