3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127 305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RELATED EXHIBTION:

Trenton Doyle Hancock: *I Made a Mound City in Miami Dade County* is on view through February 8, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 Book Signing, 6-7pm; Meet the Artist Reception 7-9pm

HOURS:

Tuesday-Saturday, 11am to 5pm

LOCUST PROJECTS HONORS CRAIG ROBINS AND CELEBRATES ARTIST TRENTON DOYLE HANCOCK AT 21ST ANNIVERSARY BENEFIT DINNER



(MIAMI, FL—November 20, 2019) This past Saturday, Locust Projects—Miami's longest running alternative nonprofit art space—hosted its 21st Anniversary Benefit Dinner honoring Craig Robins and celebrating the artist Trenton Doyle Hancock and his new exhibition at Locust Projects.

This special art-inspired gathering of friends recognized honoree Craig Robins' visionary contributions to Miami's art and design community and specifically the role he has played in supporting Locust Project's ten-year history in Miami's Design District, and celebrates an exciting new installation by Houston-based artist Trenton Doyle Hancock.

Co-chaired by Locust Project's Board Chair, Debra Scholl, and board members Jorge Garcia, vice chair, and Munisha Underhill, the sold-out event drew eighty friends and supporters of Locust Projects including major event sponsors Craig Robins, Cara and Robert Balogh, Irma and Norman Braman, Rosa and Carlos de la Cruz, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, James Cohan Gallery, and Vivian Pfeiffer, Chairman of Phillips.

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127 305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org



"The evening honors our friend Craig for the significant role he has played in advancing and defining Miami's arts community, the transformation of the Design District and his outstanding vision in supporting arts organizations—especially



Locust Project's—and their 10 year-history in the Miami Design-District," says Debra Scholl, Locust Projects Board Chair.

Held at Locust Projects, friends were welcomed into Hancock's Moundverse with pink-hued cocktails made with REYKA VODKA and a preview of the exhibition with the artist in his storefront "toy store". The intimate dinner featured an artful multi-course feast prepared by Le Basque Catering inspired by the exhibition with an "Evil Vegans" Mound Truffle main course and a "Mound" peak dessert.

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127 305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org

> Dinner was held in the Main Gallery surrounding Hancock's ceiling-high Mound #1, (aka The Legend)—the chief protagonist in the artist's singular epic mythological narrative that tells the story of the Mounds (gentle hybrid plant-like creatures) protected by Torpedo Boy (Hancock's alter-ego), and their enemies, the Vegans (mutants who consume tofu and spill Mound blood every chance they get). This was the artist's first project since opening his major retrospective at Mass MoCA earlier this spring.

"As a space that invites artists of all career stages to experiment and push their practice, we are thrilled to welcome an established artist like



Trenton to take over our space and have the opportunity to experiment and play, expanding the trajectory of his ever-evolving Moundverse in new ways," says Lorie Mertes, Executive Director. "Given Craig's longstanding support of art and artists in Miami, it's only fitting that we honor him in an artful environment by such an incredible artist."



Notable artists, art leaders, collectors, gallerists and arts patrons converged to support Locust Projects and the celebration, including Brian Antoni, Cara and Robert Balogh, Susan and Richard Arregui, Alex Gartenfeld, Marvin Ross Friedman and Adrienne bon Haes, Jorge Garcia and Angel Perez, George Lindemann, Diane and

Robert Moss, Paula Naughton, James Cohan Gallery, New York, Jaime Odabachain, Ilona and Chad Oppenheim, Vivian Pfeiffer, Susan Richard, Victoria Rogers, Dennis and Debra Scholl, Craig Robins and Jackie Soffer, Munisha Underhill, among others.

The event commemorated twenty-one years of supporting local, national and international artists with opportunities to create ambitious new work in the heart of

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127 305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org

Miami. It raised critical funds that gives artists opportunities to create ambitious new work, activates conversations around new art and ideas through public programs and advocates for Miami-based artists' careers by supporting incubator grants for socially-engaged work in Miami neighborhoods and pro bono legal services and funds full scholarships for summer art intensives for teens, inspiring the next generation of creatives.

<u>Click here to view</u> event photos by Misha Mehrel of World Red Eye.

Special Thanks to Linda Adler, Le Basque, The Caterer, Hendrick's Gin, Jacober Creative, Milagro Tequila, REYKA VODKA.

ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.

Trenton Doyle Hancock: I Made a Mound City in Miami Dade County is made possible, in part, through generous support from the 21st Anniversary Benefit Donor Fund. Major Sponsors include: Craig Robins, Cara and Robert Balogh, Irma and Norman Braman, James Cohan Gallery, Rosa and Carlos de la Cruz, Vivian Pfeiffer, Chairman, Phillips, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; Supporting Sponsors: Jorge Garcia and Angel Perez, George Lindemann, Podhurst Orseck PA, Debra and Dennis Scholl. Additional support for the exhibition has been provided by Funding Arts Network and Gander & White.

Locust Projects 2019-2020 exhibitions and programming are made possible with support from: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; The National Endowment for the Arts Art Works Grant; Hillsdale Fund; the Albert and Jane Nahmad Family Foundation; The State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; Kirk Foundation, Funding Arts Network, and the Wege Foundation and Locust Projects Exhibitionist and Significant Other members.

ART HAPPENS HERE.