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James L. Lawton

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Bio:

James L. Lawton is the Co-Coordinator of the Sculpture Discipline at Michigan State University. While exhibiting his artwork nationally and internationally, he continues to demonstrate a dynamic vision and passion for advancing a more comprehensive and intellectual understanding of the visual and performing arts. In addition to teaching and serving in administration, he has been recognized as a producer, curator, juror and an active exhibiting artist.

In his own research, he has worked to recognize the changes in aesthetic forms in an effort to be more comprehensive in his art supporting broader issues in a global context. His recent experiential works represent a pluralistic range of physical, psychological, historical, and cultural attitudes; it represents and evokes the ebb and flow of society and the contemporaneous texture of everyday life. The work explores a range of concepts flowing from a direct exploration of our past and present life along with changing societal issues.

His research, exhibitions, travels and teaching experiences in this country and abroad have added to his awareness and fostered an insight into the changing role art plays in society. He has been recognized in such publications as: *The Sculpture Reference*, *Contemporary Techniques*, *Tools*, *Materials and Sculpture*; *Art in Detroit Public Places*; *Who's Who in American Art*; *American Artists in the Midwest*; *New York Art Review*; *Chicago Art Review*; *American Artist*; *The Centennial Review*, *Aesthetics and Ideology*. His works are both in private and public collections: in the Asian American Art Centre of New York; outdoor sculpture in Detroit, Michigan; Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan; Mason and Williamston Public Schools; and City of Hartland (all three in Michigan) and the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, Michigan State University, East Lansing.