

THE COUNCIL ON VIRGINIA TECH HISTORY

presents Public Art on the grounds of Solitude and Fraction Family House

The Council conducted a national call for public art, seeking proposals for creative approaches to highlight how many communities, including the historically marginalized, have shaped and will continue to shape Virginia Tech. This project strives to tell and retell the histories of Virginia Tech in an inclusive manner using visual art creations in public spaces.

A jury committee, composed of a variety of university representatives, narrowing it down to two for installation - *Think on These Things* by Charlie Brouwer and *Thresholds* by Carrie Gault. The two pieces were installed Fall 2022 and were officially “unveiled” in a program hosted by The Council on December 1 at The Inn at Virginia Tech.

THINK on THESE THINGS by CHARLIE BROUWER

Floyd County, Virginia’s Charlie Brouwer’s work is a sculptural installation titled *Think on These Things*. His piece consists of seven benches in a 25-foot diameter circle with a tree in the center. Four life-sized human figure sculptures, a female; a male; and two children scatter around the circle, seated in contemplative and meditative poses.

Empty spaces on the benches invite visitors to sit and join the figures in contemplating words that appear around the circle - Indigenous, slavery, diversity, equality, education, history, knowledge, kindness, compassion, honesty, dignity, bravery, clarity, empathy - suggesting ways of thinking on these things.



visit: charliebrouwer.com to learn more about the artist and additional works



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THRESHOLDS by CARRIE GAULT

Carrie Gault's (Floyd, Virginia) piece is comprised of a series of simple thresholds; a silhouette she hopes will evoke "feelings of domesticity and ask the viewer to think about what 'home' means in the different contexts of the site and its evolution from forest to plantation to university."

The pairs of thresholds explore both past and present, featuring images and stories of people and their experiences across more than 250 years. The pieces are clad in handmade, earthen tiles containing a unique collage of images gathered from archives, family albums, oral memories, and current work. The imagery is intended to demonstrate the interconnectedness of the human condition through time, position, and experience.



visit: carriegault.com to learn more about the artist and additional works



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