



JACQUELINE CASEY

## HUDGENS CENTER FOR ART & LEARNING

6400 Sugarloaf Pkwy #300, Duluth, GA 30097  
www.thehudgens.org

### For immediate release

#### Four Finalists Named for Hudgens Prize

Duluth -- Four finalists have been selected for the 2024 Hudgens Prize, a prestigious visual arts award that carries a cash prize of \$50,000 and a solo exhibition at the Hudgens Center for Art and Learning.

The Hudgens Prize is one of the largest awards in the nation given to an individual artist. The purpose of the competition is to elevate and promote the arts throughout Georgia, while providing a transformational opportunity for the winning artist.

“The quality of the entries for the Hudgens Prize continues to get better every year,” said Laura Ballance, executive director of The Hudgens. “The finalists are all exceptional and the jurors face a difficult decision to determine the winner.”

The Hudgens Prize will be awarded based on visits to the four finalist's studios and the works on view in the *2024 Hudgens Prize Finalists' Exhibition*. The \$50,000 prize recipient will be announced at the Hudgens Prize Award Celebration in September.

The finalists are:

- **Krista Clark:** A resident of Atlanta, her work incorporates new and repurposed materials to construct familiar forms in new spatial arrangements displaced from their accustomed sites and settings.
- **Victoria Dugger:** Born in Columbus and a current resident of Athens, her practice spans painting, mixed media works and sculpture. Working across these forms, she produces objects that blur accepted categories, exploring novel modes of self-expression and embodiment.
- **Joni Mabe:** Born in Corelia and a current resident of Athens, she is a huge fan of Elvis Presley, who often ends up represented in her work. She is creator of the *Everything Elvis Museum* and owns a large personal collection of Elvis memorabilia, artifacts and curiosities – including a wart.
- **Sergio Suarez:** Born in Mexico City, he now lives and works in Atlanta. His practice, prompted by an interest in translation, uses different traditions of making to construct a visual language concerned with syncretism, temporality, and the porosity between objects, images, and structures.

The 2024 Hudgens Prize jurors include Annette Cone-Skelton, CEO and Founding Director, The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (MOCA GA); Floyd Hall, Executive Director, The Atlanta Contemporary; and Melissa Messina, Curatorial and Advisory Services Consultant, and Curator, Mildred Thompson Estate.

The Hudgens Center for Art and Learning is a non-profit organization that has been focused on supporting the arts in Georgia since its establishment in 1981. Its mission is to bring together art lovers, leaders and learners through quality art education programs and exhibitions. The Hudgens presents enriching and inspiring art exhibitions in five gallery spaces throughout each year; offers art education and programming, in multiple languages, for all ages and abilities; and provides outreach through the arts that support Georgia's traditionally under-served individuals, families and communities.

The Hudgens Center is located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Bldg. 300, in Duluth, on the Gas South District campus. For more information about exhibitions, events and arts education at the Hudgens, please visit the website at [www.thehudgens.org](http://www.thehudgens.org) or call 770.623.6002.