



T H E
S H E L D O N
Arts Without Borders

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE SHELDON AND THE GALLERY AT THE KRANZBERG PARTNER FOR PROGRESSIVE
TALK FEATURING ARTIST MEL WATKIN**

- Event:** Cocktails and Conversation with Mel Watkin
- When:** Friday, May 6 starting at 6 p.m.
- Where:** The Gallery at The Kranzberg at 6 p.m. followed by Q&A and cocktails at The Sheldon at 7 p.m.
- Tickets:** The gallery talk is free, reservations suggested.
E-mail rgunter@thesheldon.org to reserve a space.

ST. LOUIS, MO – The Sheldon Art Galleries and Kranzberg Arts Foundation present a free gallery talk in conjunction with the exhibits, *Mel Watkin: Revolving* (through May 7) at the Sheldon Art Galleries and *Mel Watkin: Trees Bark* (open April 22 to June 18) at The Gallery at The Kranzberg. The Galleries will be open until 9 p.m. for First Fridays in Grand Center.

First enjoy cocktails and conversation on the exhibit *Mel Watkin: Trees Bark*, starting at The Gallery at The Kranzberg at 6 p.m. Guests will finish the evening down the street at The Sheldon with Q&A by Watkin discussing her exhibit, *Revolving*, at 7 p.m. Complimentary wine and sparkling water at The Gallery at The Kranzberg with cash bar available at The Sheldon.

Revolving is a 46-foot-long drawing of a life-size falling tree that cycles through the seasons of the year before returning to the earth. Mel Watkin explores the dichotomous forces of nature through drawings of trees surrounding her old farmhouse in rural Southern Illinois. While the drawings are realistically rendered, they are actually altered compilations of different species. Recently, her rural area lost over 3,000 trees in a derecho, leaving a massive visual, emotional and environmental gap. For several years, replicating the huge scale of the lost trees has been a major factor in her work.

For more information, call The Sheldon during normal business hours, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at 314-533-9900 or visit TheSheldon.org.

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