

Michelle McDowell Smith Announced As Featured Artist For Cottonwood Art Festival

Mixed media artist McDowell Smith designs collage paintings with layers that celebrate diversity, inclusivity and family.

RICHARDSON, TX, USA, July 12, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Cottonwood Art Festival announces Michelle McDowell Smith as the featured artist for the semi-annual event set for Oct. 1-2, 2022 in Richardson, Texas. The mixed media paintings by McDowell Smith are focused on layers of longstanding memories, diversity within relationships, and a peaceful sense of hope for the future. Combining collage and acrylic paint; the artwork celebrates a theme of family, trust, love and the unique individuality found within ourselves and in others.



Cottonwood Art Festival in Richardson Fall 2022
Featured Artist Michelle McDowell Smith

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Michelle McDowell Smith

“I purposefully don’t create a family of foxes or a family just of deer. It needs to be more expansive to be more inclusive. The people we meet along our way through life become our family too; and give our time here more meaning,” McDowell Smith said. “The figures in my paintings are bound together by trust, empathy, love and understanding. It is my hope that I convey the feeling that not only should we fully accept each other, but we completely embrace the differences and the personal

histories of each other. By bringing our own past, it has an impact on how we are in the present, helping to make us the person we are.”

[Of Land and Sky](#) is the title of one of McDowell Smith’s recent collections with narratives seamlessly incorporated into each painting. The artist uses old maps, book pages, sewing patterns, linoleum stamps and vintage materials to symbolize emotion, depth and treasured meanings. The entire collection of 16 paintings have been paired with poems and published in an illustrated book for children.

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McDowell Smith lives near Jacksonville, Fla. with her husband and three children. Her artwork has been shown at more than 80 juried fine art shows and festivals across the country. A series of select designs will be featured on Cottonwood Art Festival’s Fall merchandise; including T-shirts, tank tops and posters.

Cottonwood Art Festival is Oct. 1-2, 2022 at Cottonwood Park, located at 1321 W. Belt Line Road in Richardson, Texas. Admission is free and the festival is open Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 2, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Festival additionally includes the [Cupcake Vineyards](#) Courtyard, two stages of live music, a craft beer garden, food trucks, painting demonstrations, children’s art stations and more than 200 artist booths with artwork from around the world.

About Cottonwood Art Festival

Now in its 53rd year, the semi-annual Cottonwood Art Festival is a juried show ranked among the Top 10 Fine Art Shows in the country. Local artists staged the first Festival at the scenic Cottonwood Park in Richardson, Texas in its humble beginnings in 1969. Cottonwood has since established itself as an internationally award-winning signature art event and become a tradition within the community. The Festival designed outreach programs as innovative tools to mentor students, designed to broaden the interest in visual arts beyond the art festival, and bring the art world into classrooms. www.cottonwoodartfestival.com

Cece Liekar

The League Lady, LLC

+1 214-695-8192



Mixed Media Artist Michelle McDowell Smith featured artist for Cottonwood Art Festival



Painting by Michelle McDowell Smith

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