THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE’S ‘YEAR OF THE ELEMENTS’ BEGINS WITH
INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE OF INTO THE ETHER: CONTEMPORARY LIGHT ARTISTS

Special exhibition featuring internationally acclaimed artists will be on view April 2 – June 26

(DAYTON, OHIO) – March 21, 2016 – The Dayton Art Institute begins its “Year of the Classical Elements” with the special exhibition Into the Ether: Contemporary Light Artists, on view April 2 – June 26 at the museum.

The “Year of the Classical Elements” is an innovative, yearlong suite of exhibitions, all organized by The Dayton Art Institute, featuring 21st-century art themed around the classical elements—fire, air, earth, water and ether. Into the Ether: Contemporary Light Artists highlights fire, air and ether through an investigation of light, a primary aesthetic principle in art.

Grounded by the Light and Space Movement of the 1960s and 1970s, so-called because its affiliated artists employed light and dark, fire, smoke, scrim and string, among higher-tech items such as neon and fluorescent lights to create works that challenged concepts of human perception, Into the Ether presents a host of internationally acclaimed artists—including James Turrell, Robert Irwin, Leo Villareal, Erwin Redl, Daniel Rozin, and Diane Willow—who build on this idea to create immersive and experiential environments using the medium of light.
Melding art and science, the artists featured in this exhibition investigate the intersection of architecture, space, sensory experiences and phenomenological responses, as well as the meeting of virtual and physical realms, to create their work. Through these investigations, the pieces featured in *Into the Ether* break barriers between object and visitor, appearing boundless and creating unique environments that will ignite the imagination and encourage participation.

“The artists featured in this exhibition explore the philosophical investigation and description of conscious experience through the medium of light, without reference to the question of whether what is experienced is objectively real,” remarked The Dayton Art Institute’s Chief Curator and Curator of European Art, Aimee Marcereau DeGalan. “In this state, light, color and space merge, becoming far more real than any literal representation of them can be.”

*Into the Ether* is organized and co-curated by The Dayton Art Institute’s Chief Curator and Curator of European Art Dr. Aimee Marcereau DeGalan and Kettering Exhibition Coordinator and Curatorial Associate Katherine Ryckman Siegwarth.

“This is truly a one-of-a-kind, participatory experience that you will only find at The Dayton Art Institute,” says The Dayton Art Institute’s Director and CEO Michael R. Roediger. “The blending of art and science closely mirrors those traditions within the Dayton community. Our curatorial team has done outstanding work, and I’m excited to kick off our year of 21st-century art with *Into the Ether.*”

*Into the Ether* is presented with support from Benefactor Sponsor Premier Health; Patron Sponsors DP&L Foundation, Wanda & Bill Lukens, Macy’s and PNC; and Supporting Sponsors Abbott Nutrition, Miller-Valentine Group, and Synchrony Financial; with additional support from Bricker & Eckler LLP, Jessup Wealth Management, Renee & Alan Thurman, and University of Dayton. The Jefferson Patterson Society Reception Sponsor is Woodard Development.

A number of related events and programs will be held in conjunction with *Into the Ether*, including:

- An artist talk with Diane Willow on March 29 (held at the University of Dayton)
- A musical performance by Thereminist, Nick Kizirnis, on March 31 during the Member Preview Reception (DAI members-only event)
- A Vine & Canvas wine tasting and exhibition tour on April 7
- A Super Saturday Family Day on April 9
- An artist talk with Erwin Redl on April 28
- A Curatorial Conversations gallery talk about *Into the Ether* on May 19
- A Yoga at the Museum session and special exhibition tour on June 26

For information about the exhibition and related programs, visit www.daytonartinstitute.org/ether or call 937-223-4ART (4278).

Admission to *Into the Ether* is free for museum members; $14 adults; $11 seniors (60+), students (18+ w/ID), active military and groups (10 or more); $6 youth (ages 7-17); and free for children (ages 6 & under). Prices include admission to the special exhibition and the museum’s permanent collection.
Tickets for the exhibition and related programs may be purchased at the museum’s Guest Services Desk or by phone at 937-223-4ART (4278) during regular hours, or online at www.daytonartinstitute.org.

Docent-led tours of the special exhibition are available for individuals, groups and schools. For individual, group and college group tours, contact Donna Young at 937-512-0152 or dyoung@daytonart.org. For K-12 school tours, contact Nicole Lomax, at 937-223-4278, ext. 241 or schooltours@daytonart.org.


For more information about The Dayton Art Institute, please visit www.daytonartinstitute.org or call the museum at 937-223-4ART (4278). Tickets for most Dayton Art Institute events, exhibitions and programs may also be purchased online at www.etix.com. Be sure to connect with The Dayton Art Institute on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest for additional information, behind-the-scenes photos and videos, and exclusive offers. For more about Into The Ether on social media, search for the hashtags #IntoTheEther and #EtherDAI.

ABOUT THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE
As one of the Miami Valley’s premier fine art museums, The Dayton Art Institute offers a full range of programming in addition to exhibiting its collection. Gallery hours are Wednesday – Saturday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon – 5 p.m., with extended hours until 8 p.m. on Thursdays. Suggested admission to the museum’s permanent collection is $8 adults, $5 seniors, active military and groups. Admission is free for museum members, students (18+ w/ID) and youth (17 and under). Some special exhibitions, programs and events may carry an additional charge and include admission to the museum’s permanent collection as part of that price. Free parking is available at the museum and the facility is fully accessible to physically challenged visitors. The DAI’s Museum Store is open during regular museum hours. Leo Bistro serves lunch Wednesday – Friday, 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., and Sunday, noon – 3 p.m. Leo Bistro also serves dinner on Thursday evenings, 4:30 – 8 p.m. For more information, please call 937-223-4ART (4278) or visit www.daytonartinstitute.org. The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The DAI also receives support from the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District.

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