Overseas Travel Inspires 'The Sound of Everything'

Winthrop University

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ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA — Trips to England and Wales inspired a new exhibit for Winthrop University Professor of Fine Arts Shaun Cassidy.

"The Sound of Everything" is currently on exhibit through July 16 in the Ross Gallery at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, North Carolina. A lecture by Cassidy is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, at 6 p.m. in Tate Hall.

Cassidy said the inspiration for "The Sound of Everything" came from experiences he’s had over the last few years, including his travels.

“When you travel, there’s something about how you’re more perceptive and your senses are heightened,” he said. “Your experiences are new. You’re taking it in in a different, receptive way.”

These experiences resulted in eight welded, powder-coated steel pieces representing the idea of a “specific sound as a catalyst for a particular type of form.” CPCC Galleries approached Cassidy about hosting an exhibition of his new work.

“The form and the color combine in an attempt to create a feeling,” Cassidy said. “The work is supposed to be experiential and felt as opposed to read.”

One of these pieces includes “Fiddle,” a tall, dark red construction that seems to be a series of sharp, musical waves pulled in together.

Cassidy is well-known on the Charlotte public art scene, with sculptures at Fourth Ward Park, The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Matthews Sportsplex and the CATS (Charlotte Area Transit System) Blue Line fencing, among others. His work has also been shown internationally in France.

Additionally, Cassidy has served in artist residencies at venues including the McDowell Colony, New Hampshire; Sculpture Space, New York; and the Djerassi Resident Artist Program, California. He currently serves on the National Board of Directors at the McColl Center for Art + Innovation in Charlotte.

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