

# The 2020 MPLSART Sketchbook Project Limited Edition Book Launches March 2nd

Five traveling sketchbooks featuring 68 Twin Cities artists are being published into one limited edition book only available via a Kickstarter campaign launching March 2nd.

MINNEAPOLIS - The 2020 MPLSART Sketchbook Project is a unique survey of the Twin Cities visual arts community during a most challenging year. 68 local artists contributed 120 pages of original work to a series of five traveling sketchbooks. The sketchbooks have been compiled into a beautiful 88 page limited edition hardcover book available exclusively via a Kickstarter pre-sale starting March 2nd. All net-proceeds from the sale of the book will be directly distributed to the participating artists.

MPLSART worked deliberately to capture a diverse slice of artists working in the Twin Cities. From hobbyists to internationally exhibiting artists, from McKnight Fellows to artists just starting their careers. The project features muralists, studio artists, street artists, graphic novelists, collage artists, urban sketchers, and more. Notable artists include: Jim Denomie, Hend Al-Mansour, Christopher Harrison, Dyani White Hawk, Leslie Barlow, Gordon Coons, Reggie LeFlore, and Russ White.

This project has had a profound impact on the artists involved, creating an avenue for collaboration and connection in the midst of isolation, at a time when many shows and exhibitions were canceled or postponed. For many, it helped them overcome months-long creative block. Others used the format as an opportunity to experiment with techniques that they incorporated into their work moving forward. Still other artists used the project to visually express their struggles during the events of the last year and many offered a hopeful glimpse into the future of the Twin Cities and the world.

The limited edition book collecting the work from the 2020 Sketchbook Project will be available exclusively through a Kickstarter pre-sale running Tuesday March 2nd through Thursday April 8th. The limited edition book will be available for \$65 with an early bird discount of \$55 available the first week. Additionally, a variety of reward levels will be available including limited edition prints of work from the project and more.

#### Related Events

- May 15th, 2021 Saint Paul-based Revere auctions will be auctioning off the 5 original sketchbooks with all proceeds going to the 68 contributing artists. More details TBA.
- April 10th, 2021 May 8th, 2021 Gamut Gallery in Minneapolis will be hosting an exhibition featuring new work from 35 of the artists in the Sketchbook Project. Additionally, the 5 original sketchbooks will be on public display prior to going up for auction. More details TBA.

## **Important Links**

- MPLSART Sketchbook Project Page
- Full List of Contributing Artists
- Kickstarter Pre-Sale Page
- Articles about Contributing Artists
- Media Kit including high resolution assets

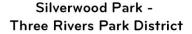
#### About MPLSART

MPLSART is a highly recognized independent resource for the visual arts community in the Twin Cities. Founded in 2005, MPLSART has been covering the best local exhibitions, artists, galleries, and more for over a decade. The Minneapolis and Saint Paul visual arts community has long been hailed as one of the best in the nation and MPLSART showcases all that this amazing community has to offer as well as working to create a more sustainable and equitable arts scene.

The MPLSART Sketchbook Project could not have happened without the following sponsors:

















# **Attachments**

Additional images available upon request See Media Kit for downloadable assets.

# Select original artworks created for the Sketchbook Project









Dyani White Hawk

Annie Hejny

Suyao Tian

Gordon Coons

## **Brand Assets**







**Book Mockup** 



Cover Design



**Project Banner** 

## **Media Contact**

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