

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lyman Allyn Art Museum

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NEW LYMAN ALLYN ART MUSEUM EXHIBITION **SHOWCASES WORKS BY IMNA ARROYO**

NEW LONDON - The Lyman Allyn is please to present a special exhibition by Puerto Rican artist Imna Arroyo, which will showcase works in various disciplines and mediums from her early years (1968 - 1980's) when she began to assert her uniquely expressive Afro-Caribbean agency, through her 2022 mixed-media installation, *Eleggua*, dedicated to Yoruba Orisha Eshu/Elegguá, representing the crossroads of the world and the opening of the paths.

Opening Paths is on view from June 29 - Sept. 22.

Arroyo's art explores connections between the African continent and its diaspora in an ongoing endeavor to reclaim a lost and scattered heritage. ***Opening Paths*** reflects the artist's connectedness to her Afro-Caribbean heritage, giving voice to the stories and rich traditions of her ancestors.

"It is my intent to create art that heals the deep-seated collective wounds of history, as well as to celebrate the vibrancy and relevance of a long denied ancestral legacy of self-expression," Arroyo said.

Born in Guayama, Puerto Rico, Arroyo studied at La Escuela de Artes Plasticas del Instituto de Cultura in San Juan, Puerto Rico and earned her BFA from Pratt Institute and her MFA from Yale University.

Arroyo has earned numerous awards and grants, among them the title of Connecticut State University Professor in 2010 in recognition of her teaching, mentorship and nationally and internationally acclaimed artistic achievements and, in 2007, the honorary title of Chief Yeye Agboola of Ido Osun (Chief Mother of the Garden of Honor) in recognition of selfless service to enrich the Ido-Osun Kingdom. She received the 2012 Outstanding Latino Cultural Award from the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education for artistic achievements that have contributed significantly to the understanding of Latino culture.

The artist has exhibited extensively throughout the United States, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Panama, Mexico and the Czech Republic. Her work can be found in numerous collections including



Èṣù Elegbá Installation • Èṣù Elegbá, instalación, 2022
Mixed Mediums • Técnica mixta
Dimensions: Variable • Dimensiones variables

the Museum of Modern Art Library/Franklin Furnace Artist Book Collection, Yale Art Gallery and Schomberg Center for Research and Black Culture.

The opening reception for the exhibition is Friday, June 28, from 5 - 7 p.m. Museum members are free, and nonmembers are \$10. To register, call 860.443.2545 ext. 2129 or email us at info@lymanallyn.org.

Related programming includes Gallery Tours with Imna Arroyo and exhibition curator Migdalia Salas on Wednesday, Aug. 7 and Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 5:30 pm; and a Family Art Day on Saturday, Aug. 3 at 11 am. More information will be available on lymanallyn.org.

The exhibition is made possible with support from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, the Frank Loomis Palmer Fund, Bank of America, Trustee, and Dominion Energy - Millstone Power Station. Funding has also been provided by the Connecticut State Legislature, and is administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of the Arts.

For more information or to request images, please contact Rebecca Dawson by email at dawson@lymanallyn.org.

About Lyman Allyn Art Museum

Lyman Allyn Art Museum welcomes visitors from New London, southeastern Connecticut and all over the world. Established in 1926 with a gift from Harriet Allyn in memory of her seafaring father, the Museum opened the doors of its beautiful neoclassical building surrounded by 12 acres of green space in 1932. Today it presents several changing exhibitions each year and houses a fascinating collection of over 19,000 objects from ancient times to the present, including art from Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe, with particularly strong collections of American paintings, decorative arts and Victorian toys and doll houses.

The museum is located at 625 Williams Street, New London, Connecticut, exit 83 off I-95. It is open **Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 - 5 p.m.**, and closed on Mondays and major holidays. For more information call 860.443.2545, ext. 2129 or visit www.lymanallyn.org.