

For Immediate Release

**Miami Design District to Unveil Monumental Crushed SOLO Cup Sculpture by Paula Crown**  
*Crown Brings Her Campaign for Sustainability to Miami in Time for Art Week*

*“Our insatiable appetite for natural resources continues to threaten our environment and our existence. We must be engaged both individually and collectively in caring for the planet.”*

*- Paula Crown*

On Tuesday, December 4, DACRA will unveil **JOKESTER 2**, a monumental replica of a crushed red SOLO Cup by artist Paula Crown, in Miami’s Design District during Miami Art Week 2018. The site-specific artwork is the second large-scale sculpture in the **SOLO TOGETHER** series. Its counterpart debuted earlier this year as a public art project in Aspen, Colorado, aimed at disrupting the bucolic scenery with a bold call-to-action to end single-use plastic waste. Crown’s **JOKESTER 2** debut creates a pointed moment for reflection amidst the excitement and exuberance of Miami Art Week.

The signature 10-foot red sculpture acts as a “stop sign,” encouraging individuals to pause and examine how we shape our world, how our world shapes us, and the marks we leave behind in transient moments. “Single-use plastics and our insatiable appetite for natural resources continue to threaten our environment, and, frankly, our existence,” says the artist. Crown asks questions like, “What happens to all the plastic we use only once and toss? Who cleans it up? What are the permanent traces we leave behind?” drawing attention to our position as complicit consumers who have the power to change our legacy.

As part of the project, Crown has partnered with The Surfrider Foundation to support its “**Rise Above Plastics**” campaign. The social-media-based campaign asks the public to take a photo with **Jokester 2** and tag [@paulacrown\\_art](https://www.instagram.com/paulacrown_art), **#JOKESTER** and **#SOLOTOGETHER**. For every photo shared on Instagram during the week of Art Basel (December 4-9), [@surfridermiami](https://www.instagram.com/surfridermiami) will clean one pound (1lb) of plastic waste off Miami’s beaches.

From 2014 to 2016, Miami’s Design District was home to Crown’s **Transposition: Over Many Miles**, a public art installation involving Theaster Gates’ studio, Studio Gang Architects, and the Design Apprenticeship Program at the Arts Incubator at the University of Chicago. The 3,200-square-foot installation was an active site for community engagement brought alive with yoga, school visits, and performances by the New World Symphony and the Alma Dance Theater. Crown’s new work represents her continued focus on environmental sustainability, civic engagement and responsibility, and the exploration of intangible forces that connect and define us.

**Jokester 2** will be one view at 95 NE 40th Street, Miami, FL 33137 starting on December 4, 2018.

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**ABOUT THE ARTIST:**

Paula Crown is a multimedia artist with a practice encompassing drawing, painting, video, and sculpture. Crown rigorously incorporates cutting-edge technology, collaboration and a commitment to sustainability in her studio. Since 2013, Crown has had solo exhibitions at the Aspen Institute, Colorado, Dallas Contemporary, Texas, Marlborough Gallery, New York, the Goss-Michael Foundation, Texas, and 10 Hanover, London (2017). EXPO Chicago and Masterpiece London Art Fair have also featured Crown's work. Recent group exhibitions include For Freedoms, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, Mount Analogue, curated by Neville Wakefield, in Aspen, and IN THIS HOUSE, curated by Michelle Grabner at the Elmhurst Art Museum, Illinois. In 2018 Crown's work will be shown at Art Basel Miami Beach and in collaboration with Hank Willis Thomas and Eric Gottesman in the For Freedoms 50 State Initiative. This non-partisan organization is led by artists who create new platforms for civic engagement and discourse. Crown earned her M.F.A. in painting and drawing in 2012 from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and was appointed in 2009 by President Barack Obama to the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. Born in Marblehead, Mass., the artist lives and works in Chicago and Aspen. For additional information, please visit <https://www.paulacrown.com/>

Join the conversation on Instagram @paulacrown\_art #solotogether #jokester

**For media inquiries, please contact:**

Tiana Webb Evans, ESP PR | [tiana@espprinc.com](mailto:tiana@espprinc.com)