CCLR Invites Academy 2017 Attendees to Co-Create Massive Mural

Thousands of Brushstrokes Will Form Acrylic Portrait to Celebrate CCLR’s 30th Anniversary; Live Painting in Booth #001

WATERLOO, ONTARIO, September 25, 2017—When doors open to the McCormick Place exhibit hall at Academy 2017 in Chicago, attendees will have the chance to literally leave their mark at the meeting. In celebration of its 30th anniversary in 2018, the Centre for Contact Lens Research (CCLR) commissioned Los Angeles-based artist John Park to co-create a massive 12-foot x 8-foot acrylic mural, which is focused on the complexity and wonder of the eye and sight.

During exhibit hours on Wednesday, October 11 (4 – 7 p.m.) and Thursday, October 12 (11 a.m. – 6 p.m.), all badged attendees are encouraged to visit CCLR booth #001 (turn right upon entering Hall D), slip on a protective lab coat, and add their own distinctive brush strokes to the one-of-a-kind portrait.

Park will then complete the mural during exhibit hours on Friday, October 13 (10 a.m. – 3 p.m.), simultaneously painting and talking with visitors about the piece. The final artwork will be unveiled at a reception that evening, and permanently installed at CCLR headquarters at the University of Waterloo’s School of Optometry & Vision Science in Waterloo, Ontario.

CCLR is exhibiting for the first time at Academy, showcasing its evolved and expanded focus on advanced biosciences, clinical research and education.

“Co-creating this mural mirrors how we have grown and thrived, closely collaborating with a range of sponsors on complex and fascinating programs that hold incredible potential for vision correction and enhancement,” said Lyndon Jones, PhD, FCOptom, FAAO, FBCLA, CCLR’s Director.
Artist John Park studied classical drawing, painting, sculpture and anatomy at the Rhode Island School of Design. His works attempt to reconcile these classical influences with the more urban aesthetic of the New Contemporary art movement. Park’s creations can be found in cities across the U.S., including Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Boston, and are held by private collectors.

For more information, please visit cclr.uwaterloo.ca.

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About the Centre for Contact Lens Research (CCLR)

The Centre for Contact Lens Research was established in 1988 at the University of Waterloo’s School of Optometry & Vision Science. Over the next two decades, founding director Desmond Fonn developed the organization from a three-person operation into a thriving hub of basic and applied research, playing a significant role in the early development and testing of silicone hydrogel lenses and the role of oxygen in corneal health, along with many other initiatives related to the performance of contact lenses and solutions.

In 2011, Lyndon Jones was appointed director, and has continued to inspire the organization’s evolution. Today, its approximately 50-person team collaborates with sponsors, agencies and academia on advanced biosciences, clinical research and education, providing uncompromising independence and results of the highest quality. It serves a range of ophthalmic-interested sectors, including medical devices, pharmaceuticals, digital technology and others, with a focus on the anterior segment. For more information, please visit cclr.uwaterloo.ca.

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