



1/6/21

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Frances Lee, Director of Communications, (225) 344-5272, ext. 112, [flee@lasm.org](mailto:flee@lasm.org)

**LASM to Present Exhibition of Work by Female Artist-Scientists  
Alyce Simon and Eva Lee**

**BATON ROUGE, LA**—*Experimental Light: Alyce Simon & Eva Lee*, on view beginning January 9, 2021, will feature the experimental art of two female artist-scientists. Linked by their relationships with the scientific community, creative use of light, and innovative techniques, both Simon and Lee create wholly original works of art. Organized by the Louisiana Art & Science Museum and curated from its permanent collection, *Experimental Light* will be on view on the second floor of LASM's Main Galleries until July 11, 2021.

"We are eager to bring objects out of LASM's collection vault and into the galleries for the education and enjoyment of our community," stated Lexi Adams, LASM Curator. "This exhibition, which features technologically-advanced contemporary art – including pieces created by unexpected tools such as a particle accelerator – will inspire and fascinate visitors from all walks of life."

Alyce Simon (1925–2011) created radical works of art with a particle accelerator, or atom smasher, which produces complex fractal patterns on plastic due to the alteration of the material's molecular structure when exposed to nuclear radiation. This process, called irradiation, results in Simon's works that harness light to illuminate patterns that resemble leafless trees, human lungs, and lightning strikes.

"*Experimental Light* is exciting because it helps open an important dialogue about how science too, like art, imitates life," stated Serena Pandos, LASM President & Executive Director. "Even more exciting is that this exhibition is coming right out of the LASM's permanent collection, comprised of treasures which are rarely seen yet offer so much education on the fundamental connection between art and science."

Born the year that Simon found her stride creating irradiated sculpture, Eva Lee (b. 1965) also uses science and projected light to create her art. Lee develops new worlds in her digital animation videos, ranging from the far reaches of the universe to the spaces between subatomic particles. Challenging ideas of perception, Lee questions what could exist beyond what our eyes can see. To create her work, Lee regularly collaborates with scientists, particularly neuroscientists.

*Experimental Light* will be presented at LASM as part of an ongoing strategic initiative to provide public access to LASM's permanent collection, which is comprised of more than 4,000 objects.

"This exhibition reflects our deeply-held belief that art and science shape and inform each other, our lives, and the world," continued Pandos. "We look forward to continuing to share our educational

mission through changing exhibitions, related programs, and special events, for the benefit of our community's cultural, educational, and economic development."

In the coming months, an immersive virtual tour of *Experimental Light* will be added to LASM 360 at [virtual-lasm.org/lasm-360](https://virtual-lasm.org/lasm-360).

###

Image: Alyce Simon, *D3 (Tree of Life)*, 1971. Irradiated acrylic. Gift of Tree of Life Foundation. Louisiana Art & Science Museum Collection, 2018.002.013. Courtesy of LASM.

*Experimental Light: Alyce Simon & Eva Lee* is supported by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture Recreation and Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council. Funding has also been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts. The exhibition is also supported by a grant from the Olin Corporation.

### **About the Louisiana Art & Science Museum**

Housed on the banks of the Mississippi River in a historic railway station in downtown Baton Rouge, the Louisiana Art & Science Museum believes that art and science shape each other, our lives, and the world. The Museum is currently open for modified operating hours: Thursdays & Fridays from 9:30 AM – 2 PM and Saturdays from 9:30 AM – 5 PM. Active duty military members, first responders, and their families receive free admission with ID as part of the Blue Star Museums program, sponsored by Special Risk Insurance, Inc. VFIS of Mississippi/Louisiana.

The Museum, founded in 1962, is home to the Irene W. Pennington Planetarium, the largest and most advanced planetarium in Louisiana and one of the largest in the southeastern United States; a permanent collection including over 4,000 objects; one of the only permanent ancient Egypt galleries in the southeastern United States, housing an authentic, Ptolemaic-era mummy; and displays changing art exhibitions of local and international acclaim.

Access to the Museum's digital learning platform for at-home art and science experiences is available at [virtual-lasm.org](https://virtual-lasm.org). A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, the Museum relies on the support of donations to operate; support the Museum's COVID-19 relief fund at [lasm.org](https://lasm.org). Stay in touch at [lasm.org](https://lasm.org) and on social media!