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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CODAworx and Epson Announce Emerging Artist Awards**

*Recognizing the spirit of experimentalism at the early career stage*

**MADISON, WI, August 23, 2021** – CODAworx, the hub of the commissioned art economy, has announced the winners of its new Emerging Artists Awards, which recognize three creative professionals who are new in their careers and on a path to make a contribution to the commissioned art industry. The awards are sponsored by Epson, a long-time supporter of artists who push the boundaries of experiential art.

CODAworx and Epson will recognize the award winners during [CODASummit](#), the art + tech industry’s annual conference, this year taking place in Scottsdale, AZ. Award winners will be introduced at an evening reception on November 11th in Scottsdale. The reception is sponsored by Epson, and will be held in the VIP Lounge at Canal Convergence, the annual water and light festival produced by Scottsdale Public Art.

This year’s judges were led by Christiane Paul, Chief Curator / Director of the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center and Professor in the School of Media Studies at The New School, and Adjunct Curator of Digital Art at the Whitney Museum of American Art.

“Congratulations to this group of extraordinary winners – emerging artists who epitomize the spirit of innovation and thus contribute to the growth and vibrancy of the art + technology movement” said Gavin Downey, Senior Product Manager at Epson. “Epson is proud to support this new awards program that encourages the careers of young artists.”

CODAworx and Epson will honor the following award recipients on November 11 in Scottsdale:

**Jonathan Cortes-Rodriguez ◦ Liz Hickok ◦ Paul Magnuson**

### **Jonathan Cortes-Rodriguez**

Originally from Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, Jonathan Cortes-Rodriguez is a multidisciplinary designer with an extensive background in digital innovation across design industries. He's the co-founder of the applied research and design consultancy, Collective Exchange, while also directing it's internal innovation and research hub, Base Sixty. He's furthering his research exploring the relationship between the process of constructing the topology of 3D-models and the realization process of real world fabrication, construction, and manufacturing.

### **Liz Hickok**

San Francisco-based artist, Liz Hickok, works in an innovative creative style, mixing low and high tech to create immersive art works that bring viewers into a whimsical and wondrous space. Using playful materials and intersecting photography, sculpture, video, and installation, Hickok makes art that intermingles science and nature. Her most recent projects use augmented reality and other interactive technologies, inviting her spectators to take a more personal approach to her art, and closing the gap between artist and viewer.

### **Paul Magnuson**

A certified BFA dropout and Bachelor of Commerce graduate from Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Paul embodies the proverbial working-artist and is a self-describing artist charlatan. Whether the artist, technician, designer, project manager or conceptual contributor, he is always pushing the boundaries of production technology in public, interactive, installation art. He brings a wealth of knowledge to any project, executing with passion and creativity.

### **About CODAworx**

CODAworx is on a mission to transform every space in the world by making great commissions happen. Serving as the hub of the commissioned art economy, we connect all members of the industry, matching creative talent with creative opportunities, and providing digital tools that streamline the commission workflow process. Our network connects artists and creative teams to architects, design and art professionals, and the universe of companies that provide services and products for commission projects. The CODAworx website, which launched in December 2014, has attracted design + art members from 93 countries. To date, over 8,000 projects are featured on CODAworx with art budgets totaling over \$1.8 billion. Visit [www.codaworx.com](http://www.codaworx.com)

### **About Epson**

Epson is a global technology leader dedicated to co-creating sustainability and enriching communities by leveraging its efficient, compact, and precision technologies and digital technologies to connect people, things, and information. The company is focused on solving societal issues through innovations in home and office printing, commercial and industrial printing, manufacturing, visual and lifestyle. Epson will become carbon negative and eliminate use of exhaustible underground resources such as oil and metal by 2050.