Latta Plantation and Nature Preserve

Buster Simpson

DATE
Artist Commissioned August 2016
Installation Anticipated January 2018

LOCATION
6211 Sample Rd
Huntersville, NC 28078

DESCRIPTION
Located in Huntersville, NC, the Latta Plantation Nature Center serves as the gateway to the 1,460 acres of Latta Planation Nature Preserve and is the source for educational programs and information on the preserve’s natural communities, flora, and fauna. The preserve, Mecklenburg County’s largest, forms a green peninsula extending into Mountain Island Lake and protects a natural heritage site and several endangered species.

In alignment with the Latta Nature Center’s educational focus on hydrology and water conservation, Seattle-based artist Buster Simpson is creating a public sculpture that references dowsing rods and the search for water. Throughout Simpson’s four-decade career as an artist working in a broad range of materials and approaches, the human impact on the environment has remained a consistent focus. The artist’s stainless steel, kinetic sculpture, Quest, will stand 13’ tall at its center and act as a weather vane capable of moving 360 degrees and bobbin up and down. Quest provides an elegant entry feature to the Latta Nature Center, welcoming visitors with an icon of searching and investigation.

SELECTION PANEL
Manoj Kesavan, Public Art Commission; Shannon Binns, Executive Director, Sustain Charlotte; Carrie Gault, Artist, Color Box Mosaics, LLC; and Peter Franz, Landscape Architect, UNCC Facilities Management

FUNDING PARTNER
This project is funded through Mecklenburg County’s 1% for the Arts Ordinance. The ASC administers the public art program for the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Artist Selection and designs are approved by the appointed Public Art Commission.