

*For immediate release*

## **Tang Teaching Museum's *Liz Collins* — *Energy Field* To Feature Guest Artist E.V. Day**

**Installation's New Iteration Opens July 2, 2016**

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. (June 9, 2016) — The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College is proud to announce the inclusion of new work by acclaimed artist E.V. Day in Liz Collins' long-term lounge/installation *Energy Field* beginning July 2, 2016.

Day's piece is a direct response to the recent tragedy in Orlando. Stretching across the large window of the Tang's mezzanine in a custom steel frame and constructed out of fishnet body suits, elastic cords and hardware, *Perpetual Motion*, 2016, deals with visibility, inclusion, and defiant expression.

Liz Collins' installation has been described as a “new age crystal cave viewed through a pop post-modern lens” and is designed for congregation, conversation, and study. Expanding on its role as a space for conversations and connections, Collins has invited a series of fellow artists to re-imagine the space in dialogue with her. Previous iterations of the Plinth Guest Artist Project have included a library of books donated by Collins' artist friends and a meditation on love and loss by the artist Nayland Blake.

In formal and conceptual works, E.V. Day transforms clichés about fashion, femininity, and feminism. She earned an MFA in Sculpture from Yale University in 1995 and soon after began her *Exploding Couture* series (1999-2002) featured in the Whitney Biennial 2000. Most recently she was awarded the prestigious Rome Prize for Visual Arts by the American Academy in Rome. In recent years, Day has used fishnet in her work as a visual rendering and volumizing device akin to wire frame and 3-D modeling.

*Energy Field* is an ongoing installation that has transformed the Tang's mezzanine into a lounge and community space for the museum's many visitors. Since opening in October 2015, *Energy Field* has hosted dialogues, the Tang Student Advisory Council meetings, an improvisational dance performance, a Creation Myth Story Circle, and numerous museum guests who can sit back and become re-energized.

Liz Collins is a New York City-based artist and designer known for her textiles, installations, and *KNITTING NATION*, her live labor and site-specific installation project. Collins recently created *Energy Field*, a lounge in the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College, where her paintings and three-dimensional textile works co-exist with her home textiles and furniture. She was also an artist in residence at the Museum of Arts and Design in New York through the end of January 2016 and created a massive woven installation for the staircase in the lobby there in March 2016. Her solo exhibitions have been at Heller Gallery, NY; AMP Gallery, Provincetown, MA; Occidental College, LA; Textile Arts Center, NY; AS220, Providence, RI; and the Knoxville Museum of Art. Her work has been included in numerous exhibitions including at the ICA/Boston; Leslie Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art; the Museum of FIT; the Milwaukee Art Museum; the Museum of Arts and Design; MoMA; and the Tang Museum at Skidmore College. Collins' awards include a USA Fellowship, a MacColl Johnson Fellowship, and residencies at Haystack, Yaddo, and AIR Alaska. Collins received both her BFA and MFA from RISD and was an Associate Professor there from 2003-2013. She has since taught at PRATT, SAIC, and MICA.

### **About the Tang Teaching Museum**

The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. is a cultural anchor of New York's Capital Region and a model for university art museums across the country. The Tang hosts some 40,000 visitors annually, ranging from school students to museum-goers from around the globe. The Museum is open noon – 5 p.m., Tuesday – Sunday, with extended hours until 7 p.m. on Fridays in July and August and until 9 p.m. Thursday the rest of the year, and is closed on Mondays and major holidays. For more information call 518-580-8080 or visit [skidmore.edu/tang](http://skidmore.edu/tang).

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### **For media in the Capital Region, please contact:**

Michael Janairo  
Assistant Director for Engagement, Tang Teaching Museum  
518-580-5542  
[mjanairo@skidmore.edu](mailto:mjanairo@skidmore.edu)

### **For media outside the Capital Region, please contact:**

Whitney Wei  
Resnicow and Associates  
212-671-5179  
[wwei@resnicow.com](mailto:wwei@resnicow.com)

Isabel Sinistore  
Resnicow and Associates  
212-671-5175  
[isinistore@resnicow.com](mailto:isinistore@resnicow.com)