

# EXQUISITE CREATURES

CHRISTOPHER MARLEY

*A Dialogue with Nature, Art and Science*



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Ashten Goodenough

Chief Operating Officer

[a.goodenough@dcidaho.org](mailto:a.goodenough@dcidaho.org)

Discovery Center of Idaho

[a.goodenough@dcidaho.org](mailto:a.goodenough@dcidaho.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
EXQUISITE CREATURES**

**Boise, ID** - The Discovery Center of Idaho is excited to announce the arrival of the world-class exhibition, *Exquisite Creatures*, an artistic experience that unravels humanity's intimate relationship with the natural world, opening Monday, September 20th, 2021. Artist, naturalist and New York Times bestselling author Christopher Marley reveals the obscure beauty in nature through his three-dimensional work with animal, mineral and plant specimens.

Visitors will experience the ancient connection between art, nature and science at Marley's awe-inspiring exhibit. Tapping the natural world as his medium, his revolutionary work features rare elements of nature in the precise geometric compositions that have become his signature.

"Whether or not we consider ourselves nature enthusiasts, the love of life affects us all – we are instinctively inclined to care for it, to understand it, and to be good stewards of it," said Christopher Marley. "I am thrilled to share *Exquisite Creatures* with people in the Boise community because I believe visual enjoyment of the natural world is one of the most effective tools for motivating learning and understanding. As we develop our own personal, unique connection to nature, we benefit increasingly from its restorative effects. Our creativity increases. Our outlook brightens. We become happier and more complete, both as individuals and as a society." - *Christopher Marley, Artist of Exquisite Creatures*

All of the organisms used in Marley's work are either reclaimed (in the case of vertebrates) or sustainably obtained (in the case of insects) using a worldwide network of people and institutions that share his passion for nature.

Marley works to remove much of the threat we naturally feel from unfamiliar organisms by focusing on their physical design elements. He believes the love for non-human life we innately possess can sometimes be overshadowed by the threat of the unknown. When experienced as an element of a

geometric composition, a texture study or a color story, even the most fearsome organisms can be experienced with fresh eyes.

"This is an amazing opportunity for students to explore the naturally elegant integration of art, science and math! Student visitors will participate in observing patterns in nature and applying them to their own art pieces influenced by science and math, while also delving into the worlds of taxonomy, morphology, biodiversity and conservation. We encourage schools and teachers to take advantage of our field trip program this fall, as an amplification of your classroom math, science and art instruction and provide students with new and exciting entry points into learning about the world around them." - *Emily Mahon, Education Director at Discovery Center of Idaho*

"Exquisite Creatures is a beautiful, meticulously crafted exhibition that masterfully blends science, art and math. This unforgettable exhibition offers visitors of all ages a rare opportunity to experience the natural world up close and in incredible detail." - *Eric Miller, Executive Director of Discovery Center of Idaho*

*Exquisite Creatures* will be at the Discovery Center of Idaho September 20th, 2021 - February 20th, 2022.

### **About Christopher Marley**

Christopher Marley is an artist, designer, photographer and author, who uses preserved natural specimens as his medium. He grew up in Oregon, and works to broaden the world's appreciation for the little-known or misunderstood artifacts of nature and remove the threat we sometimes feel from these organisms by focusing on their physical design. Marley collects or reclaims his subjects in an environmentally sensitive manner using a worldwide network of people and institutions that share his passion for nature. He maintains design studios in Oregon and Malaysia, where he develops new methods to preserve natural artifacts of all kinds. His three-dimensional art has been featured in numerous publications including *Scientific American*, *Wired*, *Smithsonian.com* and the *Audubon* magazine. Marley's popular first book, *Pheromone (Pomegranate, 2008)* focused on his artwork with insects and was listed as one of the best books of the year by *The Times (UK)*. His second book, *Biophilia (Abrams, 2015)* was a *New York Times* bestseller.

### **About the Center**

The Discovery Center is a private non-profit 501(C)3 organization. Our mission is to inspire lifelong interest and learning in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). We believe learning is fun and expands minds and lives. Because of the opportunities and exhibitions we provide, our community is more scientifically literate, curious, and empowered to explore.

### **Admission Prices & Hours**

Admission is FREE for members. For non-members, admission is \$18 for adults ages 18+, \$17 for seniors ages 65+, \$12 for youth ages 2-17, FREE for children under age 2. \$1 discounts for active military and veterans and Museums for All subsidized program available for those with a valid EBT card. We're open 10am to 4:30pm Monday-Saturday and 12pm to 4:30pm on Sundays.

### **Other Updates**

Thank you for supporting lifelong learning in STEM! The Discovery Center of Idaho is thrilled to provide this world-class exhibition to the community. There are some items you should know before your visit:

- Timed entry ticket purchases with limited capacity
- Contact-free payment options at the door (Debit or Credit Card only please)
- Designated entrance and exit with an automatic door opener to minimize surface contact
- Galleries will have a specific route to follow to help maintain social distancing
- Floor staff busy cleaning all surfaces throughout the day
- Automatic hand sanitation stations and hand washing throughout the Center
- Visitors are strongly encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing

For more information: [dcidaho.org](http://dcidaho.org) | 208.343.9895 | 131 Myrtle St. Boise, ID 83702