



Seattle Nantes Sister City Association 2026 Artist Exchange: *Citizens of Nature*

Eric Fonteneau and Suze Woolf

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE; end date May 24, 2026

Exhibit runs May 2-24, 2026 at Base Camp Studios 2

Artist Reception Belltown Art Walk May 8, 2026

Regular Gallery Hours Friday 2-6pm, Saturday & Sunday Noon – 4 pm

Additional Information: **Bunny Schmidley**, bunnyinfrance@hotmail.com

Nick Ferderer: nick@basecamp206.com

Seattle, WA – Seattle Nantes Sister City Association brings together a Seattle artist and a Nantes artist for an exhibition of tree and forest-oriented drawings and a textile installation. Both are a barometer of and a metaphor for the dramatic climate changes that affect our planet and ultimately ourselves.



Eric Fonteneau has exhibited work throughout Europe as well as in Asia and the USA. Together with technicians and architects he has created experiences in public spaces, the built environment, and in the natural world. His work is a meditation on our planet and essential knowledge of it. Although he works with other themes as well, the forest recurs as inspiration and as refuge against the harmful excesses of humans. Above left, Eric in his studio; right, an exhibit « Figures du monde » at Musée des Sables d'Olonne.



Suze Woolf has focused on threats to forests for the last 18 years, with exhibitions across the United States and Canada. Her original paintings of burned trees, presented here as shaped and layered textile prints suspended in air, immerse the viewer in an ephemeral forest experience. Stories, poems and journal entries by wildland firefighter and author **Lorena Williams** are embedded in many of the print sets. Above left, Suze with original paintings on the wall and a textile tree set owned by Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, Washington; right, “State of the Forest” at Grants Pass Museum of Art, Oregon.

About Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association

The Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association is a nonprofit citizen diplomacy organization chartered by the city of Seattle since 1980 to develop active and lasting connections for the mutual benefit of the people of Seattle and Nantes, France, through artistic, cultural, and educational endeavors. SNSCA has mounted numerous art exhibitions over the years, including bringing works by French artist and author Claude Ponti to Nantes Park in West Seattle and sending works by Coast Salish artists to Nantes. Most recently, Seattle artist, Barbara Earl Thomas, designed welcoming gates for the fledgling Seattle Garden in Nantes, created as a living testament to the enduring relationship between the two cities.

About Base Camp Studios 2

Base Camp Studios 2 is a vibrant arts hub in Seattle's Belltown neighborhood, located in the historic Bergman Luggage Building at 1901 3rd Avenue. The two-story venue houses 30 artist studios, a gallery, and a retail area which anchor the Belltown Art Walk