



New outdoor sculpture to be installed at Indianapolis International this Friday

INDIANAPOLIS—A massive sculpture carved from a 20,000-pound block of Indiana limestone quarried in Clear Creek has been created by an Indiana University artist for display at Indianapolis International Airport (IND). It will be installed Friday morning.

MEDIA AVAILABILITY

The 9' x 5' x 5' piece, titled *The Birth of Flight*, will be installed in the North Garden Friday between approximately 10 a.m. and noon. The artist will be available for interviews and photo opportunities after the installation is complete.

Reporters and/or assignment editors should **contact Julia Moore, public art administrator for Blackburn Architects, at 317.460.0596 before noon on May 14** for interviews.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Created by Todd Frahm, visiting assistant professor of sculpture at IU Bloomington, the work depicts two hands forming the American Sign Language symbol for a butterfly. They rise from a mass of feathers, entwining to both form the sign and symbolize the human quest for flight. Frahm has been carving the sculpture since last September. He was selected from a call for proposals from Indiana artists distributed in early 2009.

Indianapolis International Airport has two outdoor garden areas for passengers and visitors to enjoy. The South Garden features a sculpture (*Cardinalis* by artist John van Alstine) that is part of the airport authority's permanent collection.

The North Garden was designed to feature temporary works that will rotate about every two years. Since the airport opened in 2008, the North Garden has contained a sculpture titled *Towards Flight* by Indianapolis-based artist Brian McCutcheon. The whimsical piece features a life-sized lawn chair to which a colorful spray of balloons is tethered. It will be returned to McCutcheon later this year.

Frahm has a BFA from the University of Illinois–Urbana and an MFA from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. He taught at Santa Monica College and Fullerton College in California before joining Indiana University in 2006. He lives in Solsberry, IN.

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