

## Engagement Announcement



### The Art Guys & A Plant (Houston, TX)



THE ART GUYS  
MARRY A PLANT

"The proper basis for a marriage is mutual misunderstanding." ~ Oscar Wilde

"One should never know too precisely whom one has married." ~Friedrich Nietzsche

On June 13, 2009, The Art Guys will marry a live oak tree (*quercus virginiana*) in a public ceremony. The wedding will take place in the Lillie and Hugh Roy Cullen Sculpture Garden of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston with a reception immediately following at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston. The tree will subsequently be planted in a public ceremony and will be installed with a bronze plaque commemorating the event. The date and location of the planting will be announced at a later date.

The ceremony is sponsored and presented by the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston as part of the exhibition "No Zoning: Artists Engage Houston," May 8 – October 4, 2009.

The Art Guys Marry a Plant, first conceived in 2004, is the latest in a body of "behavior" works by The Art Guys wherein the perceived boundaries between sculpture and performance, art and life, philosophy and action, are blurred to the point of being indistinguishable.

The Art Guys Marry a Plant is a work that will take place in several stages and will have several components. They are:

Plans and preparations:

The Art Guys Marry A Plant will be conducted like a typical American wedding ceremony except that the participants will be The Art Guys and a live oak tree sapling. Engagement announcements were sent via email in January, 2009. Invitations will be sent closer to the date. Wedding announcements will be posted in newspapers (if allowed).

In conjunction with the upcoming exhibition No Zoning: Artists Engage Houston, the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is publishing a new multiple by The Art Guys. 'The Art Guys

Marry A Plant Wedding Cake Topper," 2009, produced in an edition of 12, is a small sculpture commemorating the performance The Art Guys will present on Saturday, June 13, 2009, in which they will marry a live oak tree in a public ceremony.

#### The exhibition

The tree which The Art Guys marry will be on display from May 8 through October 4, 2009 at the Contemporary Arts Museum as part of the exhibition 'No Zoning: Artists Engage Houston.'

#### The ceremony

The Art Guys Marry A Plant ceremony will be conducted in the Lillie and Hugh Roy Cullen Sculpture Garden of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston with a reception immediately following at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston. The ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2009 at 11:00 AM and will be conducted by Ed Cooper, ordained minister. Other wedding ceremony details are being arranged at this writing.

#### The future

The live oak tree sapling from The Art Guys Marry a Plant will be planted in a public ceremony at a location to be determined. The tree will be accompanied by a commemorative bronze plaque to mark its significance for future audiences.

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