



SENSORIO PRESENTS FIRST EVER SUNRISE SUNDAY AT Bruce Munro: LIGHT AT SENSORIO

This special event in September allows patrons to experience the exhibit in a new light.

PASO ROBLES, CA (3 August 2023) — Sensorio, the Central California location dedicated to the intersection of art, technology, and nature, will host its first ever Sunrise Sunday at Sensorio on Sunday, September 24, with a pre-dawn experience that includes yoga, coffee, pastries, and more. Beginning at 4:30am and concluding at 7:30am, participants can start their day in a truly extraordinary way as the magical hues of the Sensorio exhibits blend into the sunrise. During the Sunrise Sunday event, visitors will have full access to all four exhibits of Bruce Munro: Light at Sensorio – from the multi-acre walkthrough Field of Light to the adjacent Light Towers, as well as the newly added Gone Fishing and Fireflies installations. Witnessing these exhibits amidst the transition of colors during sunrise promises to be a magical experience. The event will feature various activities, including a yoga session led by Leslie St. John from Prose & Poses, inviting attendees to welcome the day with a refreshing sun-salutation. Food and beverage – coffee, water, and pastries – are included in the ticket (\$40 adults, \$22 youth). For those looking for more options, breakfast burritos and espresso coffee will also be available to purchase separately. Bruce Munro: Light at Sensorio continues in residence at Sensorio, 4380 Highway 46 East, Paso Robles, California. For more information or to make inquiries, interested individuals can visit SensorioPaso.com or call (805) 226-4287.

About Light at Sensorio:

For **Sensorio**, Bruce Munro created an unparalleled immersive experience. The multi-acre *Field of Light* at Sensorio is larger in size than any other Munro exhibition internationally and is Munro's first US exhibit entirely powered by solar. The exhibit was refurbished in 2022, adding 42,000 glowing orbs to its original 58,000, creating a field now featuring 100,000 stemmed spheres lit by fiber-optics which gently illuminate the landscape in subtle blooms of morphing color – making it the world's largest *Field of Light* installation. *Field of Light* at Sensorio has been described as "mesmerizing" (*Los Angeles Times*), "art that you experience," (*San Francisco Chronicle*), a "dreamlike glowing landscape" (*SLO Tribune*), and a "well-considered mix of

technology, art installations, and community elements" (*Forbes*). It was singled out by *The New York Times* as #6 in its "52 Places to Go in 2020," and again as one of "California's Immersive Art Exhibits Worth Visiting" in 2022. *Los Angeles Times* also featured Sensorio in its "101 Best California Experiences" this year.

In April 2021, Sensorio commissioned a second work by Munro, *Light Towers*, which is located adjacent to the *Field of Light*. Featuring 69 towers composed of more than 17,000 wine bottles, illuminated with glowing optic fibers whose colors evolve to an ethereal musical score, *Light Towers* pays tribute to the 200+ wineries and vineyards that blanket Paso Robles' beautiful rolling hills. The two newest exhibits by Munro, *Gone Fishing* and *Fireflies*, were unveiled on May 19, 2023, and can be found in a small valley adjacent to *Light Towers*, adding another halfacre to the exhibit. Comprised of 30 semi-circular arrays each featuring 25 multi-colored fishing rods, *Gone Fishing* represents Munro's fascination with the contemplative act of standing by a stream. The adjacent pathway is dotted with Munro's magical *Fireflies*, in which bobbing clusters of fiber optics dance in the breeze. Inspired by two of his favorite books, *Kim* by Rudyard Kipling and *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse, the artist's ongoing dream to capture something of a similar essence in light resulted in these whimsical works, made up of 9,720 flickering points of light.

Since opening in May 2019, the exhibit has captured an enthusiastic audience from across the country and around the globe, seen by over a half-million guests from 70 countries to date. Sensorio has been hailed for creating a "movement that infuses culture in valleys of viticulture" (*The New York Times*), and offering a unique adventure described as "the future of public wellness" (*Forbes*), and a "pilgrimage-worthy art escape" that is "meant to complement, never compete or detract, from the beauty of the landscape" (*Travel + Leisure*).

About Bruce Munro:

London-born **Bruce Munro** is best known for large-scale light-based artworks inspired largely by his continuous study of natural light and his curiosity for shared human experiences. With a fine arts degree, early career training in the lighting design industry, and an inventive urge for reuse, Munro creates art that captures his responses to literature, music, science, and the world around him. His work has been commissioned by and displayed in special exhibitions in galleries, parks, grand estates, cathedrals, botanical gardens, and museums around the globe, including Longwood Gardens, PA; the Guggenheim Museum, NY; the Sharjah Museum of Art, UAE; Montalvo Arts Center, CA; Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, AZ; Desert Botanical Garden, AZ; Jeju Light Art Festa, South Korea; the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, CO; Sotheby's *Beyond Limits* at Chatsworth; Victoria & Albert Museum, London; Waddesdon Manor, the Rothschild Collection, Buckinghamshire; and Salisbury Cathedral, among others. Artworks by Munro are held in the permanent collections of museums and public art collections worldwide including the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archeology, Oxford; Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Art Museum, TN; and Texas Tech University Public Art.

About Sensorio:

Sensorio was created by locals Ken and Bobbi Hunter as a destination for entertainment, exploration, meditation, adventure, and delight, honoring the natural topography of the landscape and intended to offer a wide range of amusing, mystical and kinetic experiences. Since its opening in 2019, Sensorio has hosted hundreds of thousands of visitors, and also

become the backdrop for dozens of marriage proposals. Plans for future developments at Sensorio include a permanent dining area, and an eventual hotel and conference center.

About Leslie St. John and Prose & Poses:

Prose & Poses is an embodied practice of yoga, movement, and writing created by **Leslie St. John**. She offers workshops and retreats along the Central Coast and internationally in Mexico and Switzerland. St. John received her MFA from Purdue University, where she served as poetry editor for the *Sycamore Review*. She is the author of two books, *Beauty Like a Rope* and *Art of Letting Go* (with Annie Hock) and teaches Writing, Romanticism, and Poetry at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT:

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DATE: 4:30am-7:30am, Sunday, September 24

WHERE: Sensorio, 4380 Highway 46 East, Paso Robles

TICKETS: ADULT ADMISSION: \$40 + ticket fees; includes coffee, water, and pastries in ticket purchase.

CHILD ADMISSION (12+ Under): Regular \$22 + ticket fees; includes coffee, water, and pastries in ticket purchase.

Children under 2 years admitted free.

Cancellations may be caused by inclement weather. In that event, ticket holders can reschedule to a future date.

INFO: For more information, the public may visit <u>SensorioPaso.com</u> or call **(805) 226-4287**.

MEDIA: Contact Courtney Heimbuck, Carla Befera & Co.

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PHOTOS: Downloadable high-res photos available here:

https://cbpr.co/press/brucemunrosensorio/