



**New England
Botanic Garden**
AT TOWER HILL

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Large-scale aerial art installations exhibiting at botanic garden this summer

Flora in Flight, Aerial Art by Patrick Shearn of Poetic Kinetics opens June 22

BOYLSTON, MA, June 3, 2024 – [New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill](#), a 200-acre botanic garden located in Boylston, MA, is set to unveil an outdoor aerial art installation unlike anything that's come to the Garden before. The exhibition, [Flora in Flight, Aerial Art by Patrick Shearn of Poetic Kinetics](#), features a trilogy of large-scale kinetic art that will transform spaces within the Garden into living tapestries of color. Vibrant and inspiring artworks are constructed from ultra-lightweight materials suspended overhead to create an immersive and wondrous experience that visitors can enjoy from June 22 through October 31.

"We couldn't be more excited to bring the unique work of Patrick Shearn and Poetic Kinetics to the Garden," says Lea Morgan, exhibitions manager for New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill. Each summer, the Garden hosts outdoor sculpture installations, and *Flora in Flight* will be one of its largest and most spectacular to date, spanning 3,317 total square feet. "It's been a joy to see this beautiful, immense project come to life and to collaborate with such a talented and thoughtful group of artists," Morgan says.

Patrick Shearn, founder and creative director of [Poetic Kinetics](#), a Colorado Springs-based creative arts and design studio, is known globally for [epic festival art installations](#), [immersive public art](#), and [fine art museum displays](#) that connect audiences with their environments by creating visually striking experiences. Growing up in Colorado Springs, artist Shearn began his career in the film industry, where he worked on special and visual effects for a number of notable films, including 'Jurassic Park,' 'Fight Club,' and 'Interview with the Vampire.' Today, his art is fueled by a passion for exploring human connection, emotion, and relationship with the natural world.

"When visitors encounter my work, they step into a realm where art merges with nature, responding dynamically to the environment. As they walk through installations like *Flora in Flight*, they will see vast, fluid canvases of color, constantly in motion, dancing with the wind," Shearn says. The experience is immersive and sensory, he explains, noting that visitors might hear the soft rustling of materials, like a flowing stream, blending with the ambient sounds of the setting itself. "I hope *Flora in Flight* instills a

sense of wonder, ignites imagination, and fosters a moment of connection with the natural world,” Shearn says.

Flora in Flight was created for New England Botanic Garden and will be part of Poetic Kinetics’ [Skynet Art Series](#), a series of site-specific aerial installations that have exhibited in Berlin, Germany, Portugal, South Korea, Beijing, Laguna Beach, California and many more locations around the globe. For each of the three pieces featured in *Flora in Flight*, Shearn drew inspiration directly from the scenery of the Garden. Color palettes found in the garden beds, the visual effects of the trees in certain garden spaces, and other elements of garden design all informed Shearn’s creative process.

“Collaboration with botanic gardens is inspiring,” says Shearn. Poetic Kinetics exhibited at Atlanta Botanical Garden in the summer of 2021. “These spaces are biodiversity sanctuaries and provide a unique canvas that enhances the dialogue between my work and the living landscape. They are places where art shouldn’t compete with nature but complement it, allowing a harmonious interaction that is both grounding and inspiring. I also believe strongly in the ecological and educational missions of botanic gardens. If my art can bring a greater and more diverse audience into the Garden, I see this as a positive influence,” Shearn says.

Flora in Flight will be on display at New England Botanic Garden from June 22 to October 31. Visitors can experience the wonder of this one-of-a-kind exhibition with the cost of general admission seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer, the public can also experience the exhibit by twilight through extended evening events where the Garden stays open late. To learn more and plan a visit, go to [nebg.org](#). To learn more about Poetic Kinetics and view their impressive portfolio of work visit [poetickinetics.com](#).

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Photo Caption: *DREAM FLORA* by Patrick Shearn, an installation created for an exhibit at Atlanta Botanical Garden in 2021 (Download the image [here](#).)

About New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill is a nonprofit organization located at 11 French Drive in Boylston, Massachusetts. A regional destination, the Garden is operated on 200 acres by the Worcester County Horticultural Society, one of the oldest of its kind in the country, and is open to the public for garden viewing, trail walking, educational programs, private events, weddings, exhibitions, and more. In 2023, New England Botanic Garden was voted "Top Botanic Garden in the U.S." by *TravelAwaits*. New England Botanic Garden is an [AAM-accredited](#) museum that includes an irreplaceable collection of plants and creates opportunities for visitors to experience the wonder of plants, learn about the natural world, and make joyful connections. Learn all about New England Botanic Garden including its history, mission, and its staff at www.nebg.org.

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