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Installation view of *Bonding*, Jack Larimore, Rowan University Art Gallery & Museum, 2024.  
Photo credit: Jack Ramsdale.

***Bonding***

A solo exhibition featuring Jack Larimore

On view March 25 - June 15, 2024

Opening reception and artist talk: April 13, 2-5 pm

The talk begins at 2 pm

When experiencing nature and her complex relationships, New Jersey-based maker Jack Larimore is drawn to the positive bonds that coexist with the challenges of competition. His creative muse pulls from this nuanced interplay of nature, where he perceives patterns and processes that speak to resilience, adaptability, and interconnectedness. He sees bonds materializing through the process of making, ranging from the personal and domestic rituals of procreation, meal preparation, fostering a home, and nurturing a family, to the more globally recognized acts of producing music and stories.

The works in this exhibition are an intuitive and philosophical exploration of those stories and these acts of bonding. In essence, *Bonding* isn't just a collection of artworks; it's a journey into the soul of a maker and his profound relationship with his process and the materials that fuel it.

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**Artist Statement**

Isn't making, in its broadest sense, a balance between impulse, intuition, and instinct? For me, the act of making opens awareness much like meditation or a good hike, putting my mind in accord with my body and the environment. Making can attune us to a natural world.

When experiencing nature and her complex relationships, I am drawn to the positive bonds that coexist with the challenges of competition. To my eye, these bonds rely on synergy and shared advantage. We humans are prone to divisiveness. By breaking natural bonds and contriving differences some of us are recast as them. But we are naturally hardwired to bond so when divisive traumas like war, enslavement, partisanship, religion, etc. divide us, new bonds are then created and new communities evolve to nurture commonalities. Humanity is restored.

Much of our bonding is through making and maintaining—making babies, making dinner, making a home, a family, a school, a settlement. Making music and stories creates beautiful bonds. The works in this exhibition explore some of those stories—stories of bonds that defy the weight of divisiveness.

My practice is one of exploration. I am drawn to exploring the mediation between intuition and reason. Dualisms like this are a persistent part of our lives but what interests me in this construct is the mediation experience. Through the window of my studio work, I look for an understanding of the effect this mediation has on me.

As a naturalist, I observe a fluid and less binary world that encourages my intuitive side and presents a deeply satisfying feeling of completeness. Complete yet full of mysteries and complexities. Crispin Sartwell proposes that the shared sense of the beautiful is evidence of a longing for this sense of completeness, for the sublime. My studio work is a conduit for insights into this beauty and sublimity and I find the best results come through an organic process, an unscripted exchange between accretion and deletion.

I am fortunate to have the opportunity to exhibit at the Rowan University Art Gallery & Museum. The installation invites the pieces to be recontextualized. My experience of the work in the studio is so different from the experience of it together, in chorus within the gallery. The exploration continues.

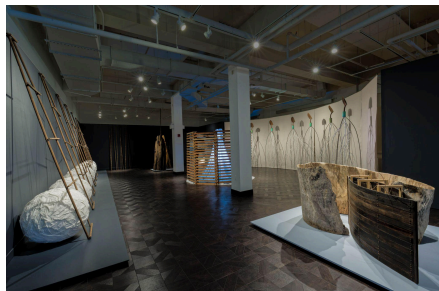
**Bio**

**Jack Larimore** grew up in the cherry orchard region of northeastern Michigan. He attended Michigan State University earning a degree in Landscape Architecture in 1973. Since 1983, Larimore has been self-employed as a sculptor and furniture maker. His work has been exhibited internationally and is included in major private and public collections. Additionally, he

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has served as a Professor in the Crafts Department at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia, as an Advisory Board Member of The Furniture Society, as a Trustee for the Center for Art in Wood, and as a Board member at Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center.

## Image Credits



Installation view of *Bonding*, Jack Larimore, Rowan University Art Gallery & Museum, 2024. Photo credit: Jack Ramsdale.



Installation view of *Sycamore Story*, Jack Larimore, Sycamore, cypress, pine tar, bronze, 68 x 67 x 40 inches. Rowan University Art Gallery & Museum, 2024. Photo credit: Jack Ramsdale.



Installation view of *Bonding*, Jack Larimore, Rowan University Art Gallery & Museum, 2024. Photo credit: Jack Ramsdale.



Installation view of *Femina*, Jack Larimore,  
Cedar, steel, cotton voile, lighting, 120 x 120 x 108 inches.  
Rowan University Art Gallery & Museum, 2024.  
Photo credit: Jack Ramsdale.



© Jack Larimore, Detail of *Sycamore Story*, 2021,  
Sycamore, cypress, pine tar, bronze, 68 x 67 x 40 inches.  
Photo credit: Myles Pettengill. Image courtesy of the artist.