FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOCRATES SCULPTURE PARK AND THE ARCHITECTURAL LEAGUE OF NEW YORK ANNOUNCE EVA CHRISTINE JENSEN OF EVA JENSEN DESIGN AND TEAM AS WINNER OF FOLLY/FUNCTION COMPETITION WITH CIRCLE SHADE - $2\pi R^4$

Circle Shade - $2\pi R^4$ is a portable and demountable shading structure

New York, NY, (March 27, 2017) – Socrates Sculpture Park and The Architectural League of New York are pleased to announce Circle Shade - $2\pi R^4$ as this year’s winning proposal for Folly/Function, an annual juried design/build competition for architects and designers. Long Island City, NY-based firms Eva Jensen Design, in collaboration with Laufs Engineering Design, designed the 2017 winning project.

Responding to the 2017 competition’s challenge to create four portable, deployable canopy structures for flexible use throughout the highly active environment of Socrates Sculpture Park, Eva Jensen Design conceived a minimal and clean design that emphasizes simplicity, transparency, and versatility, inspired by a fundamental shape: The circle.

Circle Shade - $2\pi R^4$ consists of three main components – a circular canopy, aluminum support poles, and cylindrical drum counter weights. The circular canopy is connected to the poles with custom designed high strength structural 3D-printed joint nodes, engineered as
rigid moment-frame connections, with the ability to customize for variable pitches to the canopy. Elegantly simple, each canopy can tilt at a different angle and turn its orbit position, exuding a playful character that complements the spirit of the Park.

**Circle Shade - $2\pi R^4$** offers a transparent, unobstructed view of the Park and its vistas and may be arranged in compelling clusters to host more dynamic events. Its cylindrical counter weights may be used as step stools, display surfaces, or additional seating. **Circle Shade - $2\pi R^4$** also includes Socrates Sculpture Park’s iconic eyebeam logo and celebrates it as form and functional branding.

Jensen’s proposal was selected from submissions from around the world and reviewed by a jury of six esteemed architects, engineers, and artists, comprising Tatiana Bilbao (Tatiana Bilbao ESTUDIO), Eric Bunge (nARCHITECTS), Mary Miss (Artist, City as Living Laboratory), Craig Schwitter (BuroHappold Engineering), Hayes Slade (Slade Architecture), and John Hatfield (Executive Director of Socrates Sculpture Park).

“A light and minimal tripod anchored to weighty feet lifts a circle shade radiating Socrates Sculpture Park’s character and energy of wheel,” Eva Jensen described **Circle Shade - $2\pi R^4$**. “As a constellation in the landscape, a playful composition of dynamic structures emerges. It alludes to delightful dancing discs, spinning shadows and captures cloud follies connecting ground with sky.”

**Circle Shade - $2\pi R^4$** will be on view and in action throughout the Park’s upcoming season, from June 21, 2017 when it will debut to the public during the Park’s annual summer solstice celebration. On that day, the sun will be at its highest position in the sky – a fitting test of **Circle Shade**’s functional capabilities.

**ABOUT FOLLY**
The Folly program launched in 2012 as an investigation of the intersection between sculpture and architecture through the conceptual framework of “follies”—temporary structures that intentionally served no utilitarian purpose. The program has evolved to fuse form with utility to address structural challenges within the Park. Specifically, the 2017 competition asks architects and designers to design and create four portable structures to replace four standard tent structures that are deployed, as needed, throughout the park.

The Folly program is an annual architecture competition to design and build a large-scale project for public exhibition at Socrates. The program is directed jointly by Jess Wilcox, the park’s Director of Exhibitions, and Anne Rieselbach, Program Director at The Architectural League of New York. Socrates and the League launched the annual Folly program in 2012 to explore the intersections and divergences between architecture and sculpture. Through an annual juried competition, the program creates an opportunity for one emerging architect or designer to build a project in an urban, public realm. In 2016, the competition was renamed Folly/Function and shifted emphasis, asking entrants to fuse form with utility, creating designs that explore the intersection of art and architecture while addressing and improving the conditions of the Park.


**SUPPORT**
Folly is a partnership between Socrates Sculpture Park and The Architectural League of New York. The program is funded, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.
SOCRATES SCULPTURE PARK
Since 1986 Socrates Sculpture Park has been a model of public art production, community activism, and socially inspired place-making. Known for fostering experimental and visionary artworks, the Park has exhibited more than 1,000 artists on its five waterfront acres, providing them financial and material resources and outdoor studio facilities to create large-scale artworks on site. Socrates is free and open to the public 365 days a year from 9am to sunset and is located at the intersection of Broadway and Vernon Boulevard in Long Island City, New York.

- socratessculpturepark.org

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