FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

KELLY RADOMSKE, VP OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KRADOMSKE@BOWERS.ORG OR 714.567.3628

BOWERS MUSEUM

Experience the Dazzling World of Titanium Art for Free: Bowers Museum Joins SoCal Museums' Free-for-All Day



Visitors explore 30-foot-wide polyptych inside The Eternal Garden Exhibition

Santa Ana, CA (February 24, 2025) – The Bowers Museum is excited to participate in SoCal Museums' annual Free-For-All day on **Sunday, March 16, 2025**, offering free General Admission—including full access to *The Eternal Garden: Titanium Art by Aka Chen*.

Renowned Taiwanese artist Aka Chen transforms industrial titanium into radiant sculptures that celebrate the beauty and resilience of nature. Using a groundbreaking process that combines underwater carving with medical-grade precision tools and an anodization technique to create brilliant iridescence, Chen shapes titanium into ethereal branches, blooming botanicals, and animated wildlife. Inspired by Chinese philosophy and the symbolic role of gardens in self-awakening, his work reflects the harmony between nature, art, and reflection found in traditional Chinese artistic traditions.

"Free-for-All is the perfect chance for visitors to explore *The Eternal Garden* and experience Chen's breathtaking fusion of art, nature, and philosophy before it closes April 13," said President Dr. Sean O'Harrow. "We're proud to welcome our community for this special event."

Watch **virtual highlights tour** led by the artist himself <u>here</u>.



Dive deeper into Chen's process and inspirations with Bowers Museum's digital guide here.

Event Details:

Date: Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 10 am – 4 pm

The Location: Bowers Museum, 2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706

Admission: Free general admission, including *The Eternal Garden*. (Regular parking fees apply.) Learn more at bowers.org.



Installation shot of one of more than 20 sculptures on view

In addition to *The Eternal Garden*, visitors can explore **eight other exhibitions** from around the globe, from *Art of the Pacific* to *Ceramics of Western Mexico* and more, at Bowers Museum for free during SoCal Museums' Free-for-All.

About Bowers Museum:

Celebrating over 80 years of sharing arts and culture, Bowers Museum has been voted Orange County's **Best Museum for 31 consecutive years**. Known for its world-class exhibitions and vibrant community programs, Bowers continues to be a hub for cultural connection and inspiration.

About SoCal Museums Free-for-All:

The annual Free-for-All day opens the doors of more than 30 Southern California museums, offering free general admission and encouraging the community to explore the region's diverse cultural institutions. Find the full list of participating museums at socalmuseums.org/free.

The Eternal Garden: Titanium Art by Aka Chen is organized by Bowers Museum. Major support for the exhibition is provided by the Taiwan Academy of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles and the Ministry of Culture (Taiwan). Additional support is provided by Anne and Long Shung Shih, and AUO Display Plus America Corporation.





