

Creative Medicine Lecture Series  
Cogut Institute for the Humanities  
Brown University

Kelly Milukas

**"The Art of Science and the Commitment to Awareness"**

May 01, 2019

5:30pm

Pembroke Hall 305

172 Meeting Street, Providence, RI

Speaker and artist Kelly Milukas builds a visual bridge between the arts and sciences, by imagining and interpreting the mysteries of art and science through multiple fine art forms. She tells a Modern Science Story with traditional paint and fine art photo and mixed media sculpture. The healing journey and mystery unfolds with keys and locks sprouting to life, taking on human character and form. In these bold stories, each piece transports us closer to the promise we have been given to cure.

[Creative encounters designed to engage and unlock complex ideas in science and medicine.](#)

The back and forth between art and science opens up new ways to approach and understand topics of critical importance. As an artist collaborator, Kelly engages communities in the process of expressing science and medicine through art. Each Imagination Collaboration® project is a unique encounter. The process is applicable to internal and external programs in a range of settings. Kelly has worked with scientific organizations, medical foundations, patient/advocacy communities and most recently, two biotech startups.

Regenerative medicine works to restore structure and function of damaged tissues and organs by growing new body parts from patients' own cells. In 2010, the Regenerative Medicine Foundation commissioned Kelly to interpret this field of work and its healing stories. Twenty-five original artworks including photography and painting were created to visually express the wonder and mystery surrounding the body's ability to unlock itself and heal itself. This artwork became a centerpiece at the Foundation's annual Forum held in 2011 at the Ronald Regan Building in Washington, DC and in the Forum in 2014 in Berkeley, CA. Kelly continues to collaborate and work in a flexible capacity as the resident artist for Wake Forest Regenerative Medicine Institute.

Intarcia engaged Kelly to acknowledge the talent, tenacity and patient stories within the pursuit of life-changing medicines in 2013. Intarcia's novel technology platform, the Medici Drug Delivery System™, features a matchstick-sized osmotic mini-pump that is placed just beneath the patient's skin in the abdominal wall. Intarcia's first investigational therapy for type 2 diabetes, leveraging this technology, is currently under FDA review. With a growing

pipeline, Intarcia aims to unleash disruptively innovative medicines for the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases, and unlock life's possibilities for patients.

Kelly's luminous "Keys to Cures" sculptures have been adopted as a powerful symbol for how the work of Intarcia teams is unlocking cures through innovation. Kelly's art is a permanent installation at Intarcia's new Seaport District, Boston headquarters. Intarcia also commissions Kelly to create "Key Awards" that honor outstanding staff efforts. The artwork and Kelly's contributions on-site have led to many visible expressions of company culture and values. Kelly works in a flexible capacity as the resident artist.

Magenta Therapeutics recently appointed Kelly, to collaborate with their scientists, understand and experience their patient focused mission. Then, with the critical learnings, lab tours, and design milestone visits, she will help shape the Magenta corporate headquarters appearance with artwork interpretations celebrating their vision, their science and mission. The artwork created will embody the character of Magenta's *one-time-cure* science. They are developing novel medicines to transform all aspects of bone marrow transplant and create a life-saving platform for many diseases. Significant needs remain for patients living with autoimmune diseases, blood cancers, and rare genetic diseases. Bone marrow transplant is a potential cure for many, but its high risks, toxic side effects and complexity prevent many patients from being able to benefit. Magenta is working comprehensively across the transplant journey to change this reality.

### **More on Kelly Milukas**

Kelly Milukas <http://www.kellymilukas.com>, is an award-winning multi-media artist whose practice includes sculpture, pastel and encaustic painting, and fine art photography.

Her art work is in national museum, international private and corporate collections, such as The Boston Group; Intarcia Therapeutics; Simpson Healthcare; and Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

She has served as a curator and juror and has presented talks in museums, arts and science forums, and arts organizations. She is a founding member of the South Coast Artists, RI & MA, and the Past President of the Providence Art Club.

**"Artwork", says Milukas, "can be a facilitator for scientific knowledge. Art- work, by way of our senses and emotions impacts how we understand our world. Scientific studies show that art is a powerful ingredient to improving a person's physical, mental and emotional wellbeing.**

**"Keys can open hearts, unlock mysteries behind closed chambers, and they can set people free."**



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photo credit: marianne lee photography

Kelly Milukas

Painter and Sculptor  
Former President, Providence Art Club  
Founding Member, South Coast Artists

Co-sponsored by the Humanities Initiative Programming Fund and the Department of Emergency Medicine

**COGUT INSTITUTE  
FOR THE HUMANITIES**

**CREATIVE MEDICINE**