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### **Sparks Fly for Large-Scale Steel Sculpture at Phipps**

*Pittsburgh's premier public garden to enhance the guest experience with dynamic new art installation.*

**Pittsburgh, Pa.** — Today and tomorrow [Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](#) is hosting Peter Michael Lambert and Zachary Ennis of [Red Star Ironworks](#) as the duo fabricates a dynamic new outdoor sculpture to enhance the guest experience at the [Center for Sustainable Landscapes](#) (CSL). **This large-scale sculpture is being created on site out of 20-foot-long bars of Cor Ten steel**, which the artists are forging, bending and welding to bring to life an organic form guided by the landscape.

The latest addition to the [BETA \(Biophilia Enhanced Through Art\) Project](#), a multisensory installation celebrating human-nature connections, Lambert and Ennis' piece is being installed near the ground-floor entrance of the CSL. It will be accessible to guests from the boardwalk surrounding the lagoon, part of a constructed wetland that treats rainwater.

"Fabricated from Cor Ten steel, a nod to Pittsburgh's heritage, the sculpture will complement the CSL's modernist and minimalist architecture while offering depth of consciousness to the concepts of place and history," says Peter Lambert. "Because Cor Ten is an alloy steel, its chemical composition promotes the early formation of a protective layer of rust, adding to the conversation between the work and its surroundings."

"Highlighting the beauty of nature is key to our mission," says Phipps Executive Director Richard V. Piacentini. "We developed the BETA Project to celebrate the interconnectedness of human and natural processes, and to demonstrate how people and the planet benefit from enhancement of the places where we live, work and play. The sculpture is another expression of these concepts and will help connect the CSL to the landscape."

Founded by Lambert in 1999, Red Star Ironworks is Pittsburgh's premier artist's blacksmith shop, producing hundreds of works for public and private spaces. Learn more about art at the CSL: [phipps.conservatory.org](http://phipps.conservatory.org).

**About Phipps:** Founded in 1893, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Pa. is a green leader among public gardens with a mission to inspire and educate all with the beauty and importance of plants; to advance sustainability and promote human and environmental well-being through action and research; and to celebrate its historic glasshouse. Learn more: [phipps.conservatory.org](http://phipps.conservatory.org).

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