

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***Imagined Futures: Science Fiction, Art, and Artifacts from the Paul G. Allen Family Collection***

**New Exhibition Will Be On View April 7 Through July 10, 2016  
At Pivot Art + Culture, Vulcan Inc.'s Concept Space in Seattle**



Assembly of the moonships 1,075 miles above the Hawaiian Islands: Chesley Bonestell, 1952.  
© Courtesy of Bonestell LLC

**Seattle, February 25, 2016**—Vulcan Inc. today announced a new exhibition of nearly 60 objects related to science fiction and the history of space exploration—*Imagined Futures: Science Fiction, Art, and Artifacts from the Paul G. Allen Family Collection*—that will be on view at its 3,000-square-foot flexible concept space, Pivot Art + Culture beginning April 7, 2016. The exhibition, curated by Ben Heywood, runs through July 10, 2016.

Emphasizing the exploration of new space frontiers, the exhibition will feature important works by modern masters of the speculative and fantastic, including **John Berkey, Jim Burns, Don Dixon, Bob Eggleton, Chris Foss, Fred Gambino, Ron Miller, Ludek Pesek, Richard Powers, Alex Schomburg, and Tim White**. These will be presented alongside master works from contemporary and modern artists who have dreamed of space and the future for mankind: **Ansel Adams, Max Ernst, Robert Longo, Rene Magritte, Simon Norfolk, Thomas Ruff, and Thomas Struth**.

This exhibition is inspired by Paul G. Allen's childhood, as he experienced the excitement of the space race first hand, in the news and in popular science fiction. A trip to the 1962 World's Fair brought him face-to-face with the convergence of science and art. There he observed purple sparking Tesla coils, and NASA's Project Mercury capsule that sent the first American into space, all under the shadow of the newest addition to Seattle's skyline: the Space Needle. Those past experiences would shape his art collection today, which includes many pieces by Space Age visionaries who captured the wonder of an era whose sights were set on the stars.

The exhibition will feature paintings by artists **Chesley Bonestell** and **Fred Freeman**, whose depictions of outer space appeared in *Colliers* and *Life* magazines in the 1950s and made it seem like the conquest of space—particularly the moon and Mars—were just a few years away. Photostats and large-scale models of original designs by rocket scientist Wernher Von Braun will also be on view alongside original models from the 1950 film *Destination Moon*, produced by **George Pal** with Bonestell as “technical advisor of astronomical art” (IMDB), and the cult 1972 sci-fi film *Silent Running* directed by **Doug Trumbull**.

An installation by contemporary artists **David Bowen and Kristina Estell** will be on view. Titled *voyager one* (2014-present), it is created from custom software using the location of the Voyager 1 space probe launched by NASA in 1977. The artists’ project collects Voyager’s current distance from earth, its current distance from the sun, and the distance between the sun and earth to triangulate Voyager’s location. This will be displayed with Chesley Bonestell’s own model of Voyager 1 and concept art from *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* (1979).

Objects from Paul Allen’s other cultural institutions will be on view, including an XLR-99 rocket motor from the experimental 1950s X-15 hypersonic airplane from the **Flying Heritage Collection**, and a unique IBM 360/91 console panel from the **Living Computer Museum**.

This exhibition will follow the successful run of *The Figure in Process: de Kooning to Kapoor 1955-2015*, which opened at Pivot Art + Culture on December 5, 2015.

### **Dates of Imagined Futures**

April 7 – July 10, 2016

### **Location**

609 Westlake Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109

Ground floor of the Allen Institute building on Westlake between Mercer and Broad in the South Lake Union neighborhood of Seattle

### **Visit**

*Hours:* Tuesday through Sunday 10am-6pm, and Thursday 10am-8pm

*Admission:* \$5

*Website:* <https://www.pivotartandculture.org/>

### **Social Media**

Join the #ImaginedFutures conversation with @VulcanInc on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

### **About Vulcan Inc.**

Vulcan Inc. creates and advances a variety of world-class endeavors and high-impact initiatives that change and improve the way people live, learn, do business and experience the world. Founded in 1986 by philanthropist and entrepreneur Paul G. Allen, Vulcan oversees various business and charitable projects including real estate holdings, investments in dozens of companies, including

the Seattle Seahawks NFL, Seattle Sounders FC Major League Soccer, and Portland Trail Blazers NBA franchises, First & Goal Inc., the Seattle Cinerama Theatre, Experience Music Project, the Science Fiction Museum & Hall of Fame, the Allen Institute for Brain Science, the Allen Institute for Cell Science and The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. Paul and Vulcan's commitment to arts and culture includes exploring different models for elevating and enriching the arts. Recent examples include the Seattle Art Fair, the traveling exhibition, *Seeing Nature: Landscape Masterworks from the Paul G. Allen Family Collection*, a public art projection to light St. Peter's Basilica and inspire action around the climate crisis and the public art installations throughout the city of Seattle. For more information, visit <http://www.vulcan.com>.

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