A walk-in kinetic sculpture that turns the whole building into an instrument, the Gamelatron built for this show brings together music, art and technology in one astonishingly original installation. It is a sanctuary within the museum. As you listen to the gentle music for gongs and bells made of hammered bronze and gold, the gap between the rationality of design and the spiritual experience of the sublime is bridged. Visitors are enchanted by this brainchild of Aaron Taylor Kuffner, a remarkable artist whose five-year experience with gamelan players and metalworkers in Indonesia, along with his expertise in the engineering behind acoustics and automation, place him in a league of his own. Yet he modestly says: “I am just the vehicle. There are different ways of accessing resonance, and I should not be in the way.”

“This is the most beautiful space on Long Island now.”

Alaleh Ostad, artist and Museum member

Aaron Taylor Kuffner (b. 1975) *Gamelatron Jiwa Dan Raga*, 2017 Bronze gongs, gilded and patinated steel, aluminum and teak wood mechanical mallets with physical computing system, 60 x 60 x 16 inches, Courtesy of the Artist

Aaron Taylor Kuffner (b. 1975) *Gamelatron Tangan Ke Hati*, 2017 Bronze, steel and brass gongs, powder coated steel, aluminum and teak wood mechanical mallets with physical computing system, 60 x 60 x 16 inches, Courtesy of the Artist

John Lawrence Taylor (b. 1976) “Hugo II”, 2021 LED light panels, 5 x 3 x 60 inches, Courtesy of the Artist

Photo (detail, left): Tab Hauser
Installation Photo: NCMA Staff