

The Boston Globe

Steve Annear - Globe Staff | August 10, 2016

Sand artist Andres Amador returning to Boston



Last year, Andres Amador invited the public to help create an intricate design in the sand.

A self-proclaimed “earthscape” artist from San Francisco who uses rakes to scrape complex patterns into the sand during low tide is making his return to Boston.

Andres Amador is scheduled to host several events this weekend, working with volunteers as they draw swirling, kaleidoscope-like designs on several urban beaches in the area.

Amador first came to the city in August last year after being invited by Save the Harbor/Save the Bay, a non-profit organization. The group, impressed by Amador’s skills using only a rake handle with a gardening cultivator attached at the end, asked him to return.

“The work that he did last year was spectacular, and the people that were involved felt that it was transformational,” said Bruce Berman, a spokesman for Save the

Harbor, in a telephone interview. “They felt that he had taken the beaches and turned them into a canvas, and watched the ocean create the canvas, and then wash it away. So we are very excited to have him back.”

Amador will be in Boston Friday, working with Save the Harbor’s youth program at Carson Beach in South Boston. The following day, he will appear at the Dorchester Beach Festival at Savin Hill beach. On Sunday, he will be demonstrating his artwork at Constitution Beach, in East Boston. The public is welcome to participate in the weekend events.

Amador told the Globe last year that he enjoys working with sand and the ocean’s tides because of the freedom that comes with simply showing up to a destination, drawing a pattern, and letting the waves clear it away.

“There is something that, knowing

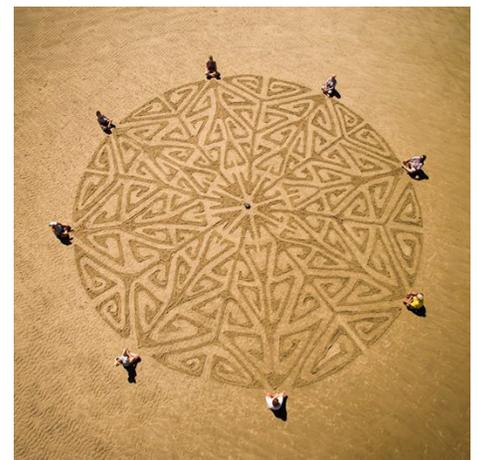
that it won’t last, allows me to let go and stop worrying about whether it turns out perfectly,” he said.

Amador’s landscape artwork has been featured around the world, and showcased by aerial photos that capture the intricacy of his visions.

The artist’s visit to the city’s urban beaches is being paid for by Save the Harbor and the state Department of Conservation and Recreation’s “Better Beaches” program. The events will go on as planned, even if it rains, Berman said.

Amador has already been in Massachusetts, scratching his designs into various beaches, for the past few days. Last Sunday, he worked with artists on Cape Cod to create a “meditational group artwork” of a sphere with arrows and lines that curved like someone flexing their biceps, on First Encounter beach, in Eastham.

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From today’s meditational group artwork gathering in Cape Cod.