

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 14, 2015

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**Hilliard University Art Museum Opens Spring Exhibitions on Friday, January 15
and Announces Extended Hours with Guided Tours**

Lafayette, LA - On Friday, January 15, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm the public is invited to an opening reception at the Hilliard University Art Museum celebrating our exhibitions for the spring season.

Depictions of Louisiana: From the Permanent Collection of the Hilliard University Art Museum uses works dating from mid-Nineteenth Century to the present and selected texts from literature, to interpret Louisiana through the artists' expressions of individuality, belief, space and place. As individuals move through their lives, their experiences with their surroundings ultimately define their sense of themselves. Nowhere is this connection stronger than in south Louisiana where generations of families have intertwined the narratives of outsiders and insiders instilling this *place* with a legacy influenced by fact, fiction, assumptions, misconceptions and even fantasy. January 15 – August 20

From the Vault: Works on Paper by Dali and Picasso showcases print portfolios of each artist – Salvador Dali's *La Conquête du Cosmos II* and Pablo Picasso's *Femmes et Faunes* – which highlights their mutual interest in Surrealism, an art movement characterized by the abandonment of rationality and logic in favor of imagination and the subconscious. Embracing Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic methods of free association, the Surrealists brought to life the symbolic imagery hidden deep in the recesses of the unconscious mind. Special thanks to Deborah and Dennis Sullivan and Halliburton for their support in making this exhibition possible. January 15 – May 14

Fashion from Fiction: Romance Novel Dresses by Carrie Ann Schumacher explores the relationship between fictional, romanticized representations of women in romance novels and the real-life experiences of women in contemporary American society. Schumacher draws upon popular culture, fashion and the romantic literary genre to highlight the objectifying effect they have on women's identity. By melding the materials and forms of these social influences into her own sculptures and giving them meaning through titles of personal significance, the artist invites us to imagine the individuals who might wear these dresses. January 15 – May 14

The Hilliard is also pleased to announce that the museum will now be open on Fridays from 9 am – 5 pm beginning on January 22. The museum will also begin hosting docent led tours for walk-in visitors on Fridays at 2:00 PM and Saturdays at 10:30 AM and 2:00 PM. Tours may accommodate a maximum of 20 people and are filled on a first come, first served basis. The tours are complimentary with the price of admission.

The Hilliard University Art Museum is located at 710 East Saint Mary Boulevard. Lafayette, LA. Museum hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Wednesday, 9:00 am to 8:00 pm; and

Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Adults \$5, Seniors (62+) \$4, Students (5-17) \$3, Children (under 5) free, and UL Students/Staff/Faculty free with identification.

For more information visit hilliardmuseum.org or call (337) 482-2278.

Images available upon request.

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