

PRESS RELEASE

Hilliard University Art Museum
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
710 East Saint Mary Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70503

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Joan Tanner. *Trophy Pedestal Horse*, 2008. Wood, metal rod, wire, glass, coated element, wire tie back, poly foam. 17.5" x 11" x 11".

Friday, June 9, 2017 Summer Exhibition Opening Reception 6:00-8:00 PM

Free and open to the public

Related Programming:

Artist & Curator Talk with Joan Tanner & Julien Robson
Wednesday, September 6
Artist Talk with Francis Pavy
Wednesday, August 30
Summer Celebration of Lafayette's French Heritage
Ongoing through June – August

Lafayette, LA, January 9, 2017- The Hilliard University Art Museum is pleased to announce the opening of its summer 2017 season with a series of three new exhibitions and the continuation of *Spiritual Journeys*. The public is invited to celebrate and view the new gallery installations on Friday, June 9, at a reception from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. A private members only preview will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 PM.

Pierre Bonnard: Landscapes from Le Cannet **Guest Curated by Véronique Serrano** **May 27, 2017 – August 12, 2017**

This exhibition features 24 works on loan from the permanent collection of the Musée Bonnard, including 17 drawings, 6 paintings and a lithograph that were created late in the artist's career. Primarily focusing on Bonnard's landscapes, this exhibition celebrates his vision of Le Cannet—which is notable not only as Bonnard's home, but is uniquely distinguished as Lafayette's sister city in France. Pierre Bonnard (1867-1947) was unquestionably a master of 20th century painting and a key actor in *Les Nabis* movement. After making annual visits to Le Cannet for many years, Bonnard acquired a villa which he called Le Bosquet, or "the grove" in 1926. This location became his primary home and studio during the last decade of his life, and the inspiration for the works in this exhibition. It is here that his exploration of light and color intensify. After capturing his first impressions of the landscape as energetic sketches on paper, Bonnard then translated those marks to color in his paintings back at the studio—achieving a oneness with nature, light, color and paint. This solo exhibition at the Hilliard Museum marks the artist's first in Louisiana and serves as the exclusive venue for this exhibition.

CONTINGENT: drawing and sculpture by Joan Tanner **Guest Curated by Julien Robson** **May 23, 2017 – September 16, 2017**

Over a prolific career, compelled by a "curiosity to engage contradiction" and an impulse to disrupt "assumptions about spatial relations," Joan Tanner's art has developed across disciplines to encompass many media, including painting, photography, video, sculpture, and assemblage.

Consistently she has been preoccupied with ideas of history, impermanence, and inconsistency in her exploration of materials and form—and over five decades has created a body of provocative and engaging work that challenges the viewer’s imagination, defying simple categorization. This solo exhibition surveys a selection of Tanner’s drawings and three dimensional works from the past 20 years and serves as the artist’s first in Louisiana.

Spotlight on Francis Pavy

May 19, 2017 – December 9, 2017

Since earning his B.F.A. in 1976 from the University of Southwestern Louisiana (now University of Louisiana at Lafayette), Francis Pavy’s art has traveled the distance of painting, printmaking, ceramics, glass making, neon, live drawing and music. This exhibition features a large scale work alongside the tools of its creation, a selection of carved wood blocks. Regional narratives and mythologies are explored in this composition, which unfolds as a series of symbols that can be read as dream states or stories. In the wake of the BP oil spill in 2011, Pavy began a series that addressed the coastal Louisiana wetlands. *Lake Arthur Lotus* is a psychedelic swampscape that was created improvisationally over many months in 2014.

Spiritual Journeys: Homemade Art from the Becky & Wyatt Collins Collection

Guest Curated by Gus Kopriva

February 3, 2017 – August 12, 2017

An encyclopedic survey of vernacular Southern art, this exhibition comes from the Collins’ New Iberia home, where they have amassed over 2,000 objects. “Becky and Wyatt Collins have simply collected what they enjoy,” says Kopriva. “In their quest for outstanding pieces of art, they have traveled all across the south, from remote farms and juke joints, to festivals and auctions. Theirs is a collection that has been built piece-by-piece, traveling through the backcountry and larger urban areas, forging close relationships with countless artists and craftspeople. Among the 100+ artists represented in this project are Mary T. Smith, Howard Finster, Minnie Black, B.F. Perkins, Jimmy Sudduth, Prophet Royal Robertson, Burgess Dulaney, Clementine Hunter, Sam Doyle, and others.

Acknowledgements

The museum wishes to express gratitude for the support and partnerships that have made this season of exhibitions possible: The Hilliard Society; the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and the UL Foundation; Mayor Michèle Tabarot and Le Musée Bonnard of Le Cannet, France; Lafayette Consolidated Government; University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Oats & Marino; Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission; Le Centre International de Lafayette; Haynie Family Foundation; Van Eaton & Romero, A Latter & Blum Company; Robertson Energy & Capital; Robert & Jolie Shelton; Lafayette Economic Development Authority; Martha B. Brown; Marvin & Sue Munchrath; Ralph & Cherie Kraft; Jeffrey & Kathryn Scurlock; James & Lise Ann Slatten; Broussard & David, LLC; and Mary B. Neiheisel; Bon Temps Grill; and Republic National Distributing Company as well as our friends and members.

Upon request, high-resolution images, full artist biographies, and complementary program calendars are available. Interviews may also be arranged.

Museum Hours, Admission & General Information

The Hilliard University Art Museum is located at 710 East Saint Mary Boulevard, on the campus of University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Museum Hours are: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM; Wednesday, 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM; Saturday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM; closed Sunday and Monday. General Admission: \$5 Adults, \$4 Seniors (62+), \$3 Students (5-17). FREE for Members, UL Students/Staff/Faculty with identification, and visitors under 5. Guided tours of the galleries are available Friday & Saturday at 2 PM, complimentary with admission. For general information, please visit hilliardmuseum.org or call (337) 482-2278.

About the Hilliard Museum

The Hilliard University Art Museum operates on the campus of University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and was originally founded in 1964 as the Art Center for Southwest Louisiana. Featuring a state-of-the-art

modern facility that was erected in 2004, the museum houses more than 2,200 objects in its permanent collection, and is the largest art exhibition space between New Orleans and Houston. The Hilliard Museum serves a wide range of educational and cultural needs by fostering cross-disciplinary intellectual discourse on campus, and throughout the region. At the core of the Hilliard's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit the art of our time, while celebrating the great diversity of Louisiana's heritage.

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