Lafayette, LA, January 9, 2018- The Hilliard University Art Museum is pleased to announce its Creative Conversations programming series for the spring semester scheduled to kick off on Wednesday, January 17 with an “artist talk” led by Philip Palmedo, an art historian and physicist, on the work and life of artist Lin Emery. Her solo exhibition is currently on display through January 27.

During the fall and spring semesters, the museum features a weekly program, beginning at 6 pm, which are complementary to the current season of exhibitions and provide a cross-disciplinary approach to learning. Every Wednesday night, the museum offers free admission from 5-8 pm in an attempt to provide increased access to the arts for the people of Acadiana. This series brings in artists, curators, scholars, and performers and provides a space where the community can come together to learn from experts but more importantly to talk with one another.

In addition to the weekly Creative Conversations programs, the museum will continue to host monthly Toddler Times and Yoga in the Galleries classes that are free to enjoy. Toddler Time is on the first Wednesday of every month at 10 AM where families can enjoy song and finger play, story time, hands-on art activities, and free play. Toddler Time is sponsored by Quest Pediatrics. Yoga in the Galleries is on the second Saturday of every month at 11 AM and is led by a local certified yoga instructor in one of the museum’s exhibition spaces. Yoga in the Galleries is sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana.

**Program Descriptions**

Wednesday, January 17
6:00pm-8:00pm
Lin Emery and the Appeal of Kinetic Sculpture

**Wednesday, January 24**  
6:00pm-8:00pm  
**Heart Notes with Ashana Sophia**  
From the atoms that make up your body to the spiraling Milky Way galaxy, everything is an expression of vibration. Everything is sound. Join local musician Ashana Sophia for a night of ecstatic chant and live music as she demonstrates the importance of using one's individual and unique voice.

**Saturday, January 27**  
10:00am-5:00pm  
**Blowout Book Sale**  
Come to the Hilliard Store for a blowout book sale! Select titles will up to 50% off. Members can use their discount in addition to the marked down prices.

**Wednesday, January 31**  
6:00pm-8:00pm  
**“The Simple Truth: Where Ekphrastic Poetry Meets Memoir”**  
Flex your creative writing muscles at a literature workshop organized by the Acadiana Writing Project. In this unique program, writers will be prompted to write pieces inspired by both the artworks on display at the museum as well as their own memories.

**Wednesday, February 7**  
6:00pm-8:00pm  
**“Emerging Stories” featuring the UL Theatre Department**  
Join the theatre department as select students perform pieces of poetry, monologues, and short scenes in response to works currently on display at the museum. Organized by Professor of Acting Camille Bulliard.

**Friday, February 23**  
6:00pm-8:00pm  
**Spring Exhibition Opening Reception**  
Join us in celebration of two new exhibitions! Drinks, light refreshments, and music will be provided by Bon Temps Grill, Dripping Springs Vodka, and Bayou Teche Brewing.

**Wednesday, February 28**  
6:00pm-8:00pm  
**The Art of Musical Composition**  
Join us for a concert organized by the UL Lafayette School of Music on staff composer, Dr. Quincy Hilliard. Students from the department will present live performances of original musical scores composed in response to works currently on display at the museum.

**Saturday, March 3**  
1:00pm-4:00pm  
**Phone Eye: Making the Most of the Camera in Your Smart Device**  
$20 Non-members, $15 Members  
Participate in a family workshop with photographer and film-maker James Edmunds. He will offer tips and techniques for getting terrific photos from the cameras in cell phones, tablets, and other devices that many people commonly carry with them as a matter of course. Recommended for ages 12 and up. Purchase tickets on ticketleap.com
Wednesday, March 7
6:00pm-8:00pm
**Artist Talk with Lynda Frese**
Kick off Women’s History Month with local artist Lynda Frese. She will share a gallery tour of her solo exhibition, Holy Memories & Earthly Delights. Presented in partnership with UL Press, the talk will be followed by a book signing of Frese’s new monograph.

Wednesday, March 14
6:00pm-8:00pm
**Live Percussion with UL School of Music**
Join us for an evening of live music with the UL Lafayette Steel Band, organized by Dr. Brett Landry, assistant Director of Bands and Percussion in the UL School of Music.

Friday, March 16
5:00pm-7:00pm
**Uncorked: Lynda Frese**
$50 Non-members, $45 Members
Enjoy an evening with artist Lynda Frese and sommelier Dina Bohn. Frese will take you through a tour of her solo exhibition and Bon will lead a tasting of Italian wines paired with cheese. Purchase tickets on ticketleap.com. This event is sponsored by Marcello’s Wine Market and Cafe & Whole Foods Market.

Wednesday, March 21
6:00pm-8:00pm
**Artist Talk with Keith Duncan**
Join New Orleans based painter Keith Duncan for an artist talk on how he chooses the subject matter for his work. The evening will explore his heritage and artistic development, as well as African American history. His work is currently on display in the exhibition Tina Freeman: Artist Spaces. This program is presented in partnership with the Friends of Humanities.

Saturday, March 24
10:00am-2:00pm
**Play Day: Happy Birthday New Orleans!**
Come to a party with Polly and Lou as we celebrate the 300th anniversary of the founding of New Orleans. Explore the city’s unique art, music, and culture through gallery activities, games, and hands-on art projects! This program is presented in partnership with the Friends of Humanities and the Junior League of Lafayette.

Wednesday, March 28
6:00pm-8:00pm
**Guns in the Hands of Artists**
Join New Orleans based gallery owner Jonathan Ferrara for a discussion of his acclaimed, community-based, social activist project inspired by gun violence. The talk will be followed by a book signing.

Wednesday April 11
7:00pm-9:00pm
**Tattooed Walls**
Join the Hilliard Museum and Festival International de Louisiane as we celebrate festival season with Tattooed Walls! Sit back and watch an all-star lineup of visual artists from Acadiana as they conduct a light projection drawing concert by creating temporary works of art on the façade of the Hilliard Museum.

Wednesday April 18
6:00pm-8:00pm
**Clare Cook: Look. See. Do.**
Join Clare Cook Dance Theater for a movement experience that blurs the lines between observer and performer. In this program, Cook and her students will share dances inspired by the photography of Tina Freeman and Lynda Frese.

**Spring Exhibitions at the Hilliard University Art Museum**


February 3, 2018 – May 12, 2018. *Bill Viola: The Raft*

February 17, 2018 – May 19, 2018. *Lynda Frese: Holy Memories & Earthly Delights*

Upon request, high-resolution images and full artist biographies 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 hillliardmuseum.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 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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