

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Conversation with Author Wendy Rodrigue at the Hilliard University Art Museum

*Book Reading and Signing of *The Other Side of the Painting**

LAFAYETTE, LA - The Hilliard University Art Museum invites you to join us on Friday, April 15 at 6:00 PM for a book signing and reading with author Wendy Rodrigue, the wife of the late George Rodrigue, a widely known and beloved local artist. Wendy will read excerpts from her book *The Other Side of the Painting* which focuses on George's life and work, published by UL Press in 2013. She will also share current plans for continuing and honoring her husband's legacy, as well as answer questions from the audience. Original works of art from George's archives and Wendy's private collection will be on view during the talk, including the 1965 painting Rodrigue selected for the cover of *The Other Side of the Painting*. The museum will remain open from 5:00 – 8:00 PM and serve light refreshments throughout the evening. The event is free for the public to enjoy.

"I worked on this book for four years," explains Wendy Rodrigue. "It's a project George encouraged from the beginning, and it's full of his quotes and our stories, including the history behind many of his best-known Cajun and Blue Dog paintings, as well as his recollections of New Iberia, art school, and his early years as a professional artist in Lafayette. The book's design is George's alone. He chose the cover, size, interior images and layout. We looked forward to sharing it with Lafayette together, and I'm grateful to the University Art Museum and UL Press for giving me the opportunity today."

One hundred percent of Wendy's proceeds from the book sales benefit The George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts, a non-profit organization founded by the artist in 2009, advocating the importance of the visual arts in education. The foundation's programs include an annual statewide scholarship contest for Louisiana high school students, art supplies for schools through "George's Art Closet", a print donation program benefiting hundreds of other non-profits nationwide, and arts integration in the curriculum through Louisiana A+ Schools – which currently provides ongoing training and support to 16 Louisiana schools statewide.

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. Guided tours of the galleries are available every Friday & Saturday at 2 PM, complimentary with admission.

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