

PRESS RELEASE

Hilliard University Art Museum

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

Jolie Johnson, Marketing Manager
jolie.johnson@louisiana.edu
(337) 482-6060

Fall Exhibition Opening Reception

The Hilliard Museum announces five exhibitions for the fall 2017 season.



Images Credits: (L) Tina Freeman. *20050617_GeorgeDureau_001*, 2005. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches. Image © Tina Freeman. (R) William Kentridge. *Journey to the Moon*, 2003. 35 mm and 16 mm film transferred to video (black and white, sound). 7 min, 10 sec. Edited by Catherine Meyburgh. Music by Phillip Miller. Piano by Jill Richards. Image courtesy the artist and Marian Goodman Gallery, New York.

Lafayette, LA, August 10, 2017- The Hilliard University Art Museum is pleased to announce the opening of its fall 2017 season with a series of five exhibitions that explore production techniques and the creative process behind an artist's work in the studio. Presenting a wide range of mediums and approaches, it brings together voices from New Orleans, Acadiana, California and South Africa.

The public is invited to celebrate and view the new gallery installations on Friday, September 8, for a free opening reception from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. A private members only preview will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks generously provided by Bon Temps Grill, Republic National Distributing Company, and Schilling Distributing Company.

The 2017 Official Festivals Acadiens et Créoles poster and pin will be unveiled during the public reception. The 2017 artwork was created by St. Martinville artist Dennis Paul Williams. Embracing his Creole heritage, Williams describes the poster as "lyrical with a festive quality," containing silhouettes of musical instruments, which are being celebrated in this year's festival theme. Pins and posters will be on sale during the event from 6-8 p.m. This exhibition is free for the public to enjoy. Viewing hours are limited for this exhibition. For details, please visit the museum's website.

Tina Freeman: Artist Spaces
Guest Curated by Bradley Sumrall
September 8, 2017 – May 5, 2018

This exhibition captures the studio practices of 20 contemporary artists based in New Orleans, featuring a compelling display of photographic images of individual artist's workspaces, paired with three-dimensional examples of each artist's work. *Artist Spaces* originated in 2014 at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, and also in book form, published by UL Press and co-authored by Tina Freeman and Morgan Molthrop. In the Lafayette installment of this exhibition, guest curator Bradley Sumrall highlights works by artists featured in the book. The display will include painting, sculpture and photography, as

well as Freeman's images of the spaces in which the works were created. The pieces on view will be on loan to the Hilliard Museum from the Ogden Museum of Southern Art and Tina Freeman's personal collection, in addition to artists' studios in New Orleans. Tina Freeman is a New Orleans-based photographer specializing in landscapes, architecture and interiors.

William Kentridge: Journey to the Moon

September 8, 2017 – January 20, 2018

This short film offers an intimate look into Kentridge's production process, both physically and psychically. It explores the studio space as a site of performance. In the role of protagonist, Kentridge himself appears, probing questions of vision and creativity. Familiar objects such as espresso cups, saucers and a percolator appear in this quest, as Kentridge aims to escape the confines of his studio and find windows into another world—one that is both absurd and profound. This work follows the magical story of *Le Voyage dans la Lune (Voyage to the Moon)*, a 1902 masterpiece by French film director George Méliès. *Journey to the Moon* is also part of a larger body of work that includes *7 Fragments for Méliès*, in which Kentridge pays tribute to the early days of cinema, as well as modern and contemporary artists Bruce Nauman and Jackson Pollock. The works in this series are among his first to mix live action footage with the stop motion drawing technique for which he is best known.

Crafting the South Louisiana Sound

Curated by Anya Burgess and Chris Segura

September 8, 2017 – October 15, 2017

In collaboration with Festivals Acadiens et Créoles and the Center for Louisiana Studies, this exhibition highlights the work of musical instrument builders in south Louisiana from the 1930s to the present. The exhibit features hand-built accordions, violins, guitars, amplifiers, triangles and rubboards - as well as photographs and video footage, offering a glimpse into the minds and workshops of local makers. There is a long tradition in south Louisiana of people making musical instruments. In the early days it was done out of necessity. Music was all around, but ready-made instruments were not. Makers relied on their own ingenuity to craft musical instruments by hand, often using the few existing instruments as patterns for their work. Modern instrument builders in Acadiana continue to rely on traditional methods, but have far greater access to high-quality tools and information. Although musical instrument making has largely shifted from a labor of necessity to a labor of love, local instrument builders have long provided the tools for Cajun and Creole musicians to carry on their musical heritage and move it forward.

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 2010, 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.

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.

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; the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, Festivals Acadiens et Créoles, the Center for Louisiana Studies, Bon Temps Grill, Republic National Distributing Company, and Schilling 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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