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For more information:

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**The Hilliard Art Museum Kicks Off the Year
With an In-Person Annual Spring Opening Celebration on Friday, Feb. 11**

Lafayette, La. - After two years of operating at "minimal occupancy" due to COVID-19, the Hilliard Art Museum-University of Louisiana Lafayette is ringing in 2022 with an in-person and community-worthy Spring Opening celebration, including an exciting lineup of exhibits and events.

"The pandemic has had a significant impact on the Hilliard Art Museum," says Museum Director LouAnne Greenwald. "As an affiliate of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, we follow the same COVID guidelines, which means for the majority of 2020 and 2021, the museum was operating at minimal capacity. We are hopeful 2022 will be different, and we are beyond excited to celebrate arts and culture, side by side, with our members and the community again."

The Spring Exhibition Opening Reception is Friday, Feb. 11, 2022. The member's reception is from 4-6 p.m., and the event is open to the general public from 6-8 p.m. The Hilliard will also host the Festivals Acadiens et Créoles 2022 Pin and Poster Reveal presentation at 6 p.m.

The Spring Exhibition showcases notable local, regional and national artists, including:

L. Kasimu Harris: Vanishing Black Bars & Lounges

Exhibition Dates: Feb. 11, 2022-July 30, 2022

For several generations, the black-owned bars and lounges on St. Bernard Avenue in New Orleans's 7th Ward were mainstays of the community. They were safe spaces for

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refreshment in an otherwise hostile world that allowed for the development of a strong community and many beloved forms of cultural expression. Now, as those lounges struggle to stay open and many become white-owned, it is unclear what will happen to the neighborhood. The photographer L. Kasimu Harris is documenting these bars and lounges before it is too late and asking the question, "What happens to the culture when it is displaced?"

Twenty Years of Marais Press: Imprinting a Campus and a Collection

Exhibition Dates: Sept. 10, 2021 - Aug. 20, 2022

Featuring art donated to the Hilliard Art Museum's permanent collection, this exhibition is the result of over 260 collaborations between students and artists in the Marais Press service-learning program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Department of Visual Arts. Over the last 20 years, professor, artist, and master printmaker Brian Kelly has invited artists to create fine art print editions of their work in collaboration with his students. In this environment, students are exposed to the creative processes of established artists. They also have the opportunity to advance their knowledge of highly technical printmaking processes like aquatint, Chine-collé, drypoint, engraving, etching, lithography and others. The Hilliard Art Museum is proud to present this significant part of its works-on-paper collection.

Talking to Death: An Allegory for Sculpture

Exhibition Dates: Jan. 14, 2022 - July 9, 2022

Talking to Death: An Allegory for Sculpture is a multimedia installation by the artist Trevor Gould. As Gould's title indicates, there is a great deal at stake for sculpture in the 21st century as artists move into non-genre-specific studio practices. *Talking to Death* is exemplary in that it is indicative of this broad trend by artists to work in a manner that is not easily defined in terms of the media in which they work. For example, this project is composed of many works of art, but they are treated as a bloc or a holistic work of art comprised of highly representational sculpture, loose gestural paintings and non-objective abstraction. Gould was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and spent the majority of his career teaching at Concordia University in Montréal.

Upon request, press and media kits are available that include additional high-resolution images and selected literature.

Museum Hours, Admission & General Information

The Hilliard Art Museum is located at 710 E. Saint Mary Blvd. on the campus of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Museum hours are: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. For general information, please visit HilliardMuseum.org or call 337-482-2278.

About the Hilliard Art Museum

Our Museum is a bridge. Our Museum is a catalyst. Our Museum is for everyone. We connect art and education, our university and our community, generations and cultures. The Hilliard Art Museum-University of Louisiana at Lafayette is not just a place to look at art. It's a place where visitors are encouraged to truly see art. It is a place of learning, where students sketch in the galleries and artists talk about their work. It's a destination for families, where kids express their own creativity through hands-on activities. And it's a resource for academic research and observation. Museum experiences build skills that extend into every aspect of life. Viewing art promotes dialogue and understanding between individuals, among families, and throughout our community. Art makes life richer. And better. For everyone.

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