



Media Advisory

June 8, 2023

Media contact:

Joelle Polisky, 615-516-0358

Email: jpolisky@GoShiftKey.com

***** MEDIA ADVISORY *****

Invisible Tears: Celebrating LGBTQ+ Artists and Their Stories at Hilliard Art Museum

Hilliard Art Museum Unveils Invisible Tears: A Powerful Exhibition Honoring LGBTQ+ Artists

Championing LGBTQ+ Voices: Visit Invisible Tears at Hilliard Art Museum

WHAT:

The general public is invited to attend The Hilliard Art Museum to experience [*Invisible Tears: A Journey into the Artists of the LGBTQ+ Community*](#). The exhibition pays tribute to three artists in the Hilliard Art Museum's permanent collection. This monitor exhibition acknowledges the unwavering resilience and profound realities experienced by marginalized groups, particularly the LGBTQ+ community, in their tireless pursuit of recognition, understanding, and the fundamental right to love without apprehension. Happy PRIDE.

Featured Artists include:

- **Gerard Murrell (1950 – 1991)** Gerard Murrell (1950-1991) was a versatile artist and scholar born in Church Point, Louisiana. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Painting and Dance/Theatre from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1973, and later completed a Master of Science Degree in Cultural Anthropology at Columbia University in 1986. Murrell pursued a doctoral degree in Anthropology/Mesoamerican Art History at Tulane University from 1987 to 1988. In New York City, he held significant positions in the art community, and worked as a photographer for renowned individuals and galleries. His

photographs were featured in publications including *The New York Times* and *Time Magazine*.

- **George Dureau (1930 – 2014)** - George Valentine Dureau (1930-2014), a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, was an accomplished artist known primarily for his photography. After serving in World War II, he pursued art studies at Louisiana State University, and later worked in advertising and window dressing. By 1960, he dedicated himself full-time to his art career, producing large-scale figurative paintings, using photography as a reference. His photographic work, focusing on male nudes and individuals from the French Quarter, gained recognition for its artistic value. Dureau's artistic contributions extended to sculpture, including notable works for the New Orleans Museum of Art and Harrah's casino. He passed away from Alzheimer's disease.
- **Andy Warhol (1928 – 1987)** - Andy Warhol (1928-1987) was an iconic American artist and leading figure in the Pop Art movement. Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, he began his career as a successful commercial illustrator before transitioning to fine art. Warhol is best known for his vibrant and repetitive silk-screen prints depicting everyday objects, celebrities, and cultural icons. His studio, The Factory, became a hub for creative experimentation and a gathering place for artists, musicians, and socialites. Warhol's works, such as his famous Campbell's Soup Cans and Marilyn Monroe portraits, continue to have a profound impact on contemporary art and popular culture.

Their artwork serves as a reminder of the diverse voices and lived experiences of LGBTQ+ artists.

WHO: General public and media are invited to attend.

WHEN: Jun 08, 2023 — Jun 30, 2023

WHERE: 710 East St. Mary Boulevard, Lafayette, LA 70503

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 through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 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, heritage and cultures. The Hilliard Art Museum-University of Louisiana at Lafayette is not just a place

to look at art. It is 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 is a destination for families, where kids express their own creativity through hands-on activities. And it is 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.

###