



Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts News Release

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For Immediate Release

The MMFA Announces the Opening of Five Great Exhibitions

Montgomery, AL, July 1, 2016—A walk through the new temporary exhibitions at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts guarantees an amazing experience viewing artworks that depict scenes of urban and contemporary settings and also celebrate the remarkable contributions of female artists.

Join us Thursday, July 14, from 5:30 to 7 P.M for a free opening reception followed by a lecture on the *Women's Work* exhibition by Dr. Kathleen Spies, Professor of Art History at Birmingham-Southern College. Dr. Spies will explore the range of expressions in the show, spanning the early 19th to the early 21st centuries, including art that is figurative and abstract, universal and specific to the realm and influence of women.

Women's Work: Prints from the Collection of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts features 47 works on paper created between 1900 and 2015. The exhibition includes etchings, lithographs, photolithographs, and screen prints that reflect the wide range of subjects, themes, and styles that have defined the roles of women artists in American culture. Alabamians Anne Goldthwaite and Clara Weaver Parrish created some of the earliest works in the show. Sponsored by ServisFirst Bank and co-sponsored by Helen Till and the Alabama Humanities Foundation, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The art in *Photorealism: Selections from the Permanent Collection* represents realism usually captured through a camera. The paintings and prints on view depict photographic images, typically of urban settings and consumer products, often created in a banal manner that reflects the influence of Pop Art and Minimalism. The exhibition includes several large prints by Audrey Flack, Ron Kleeman, and Tom Blackwell, as well as the *City-Scapes* portfolio of 1979. It also features movie theatre marquees by Robert Cottingham. Sponsored by ARONOV and co-sponsored by Renasant Bank.

The photography in *Lynn Saville: Dark City, Urban America at Night* illustrates Saville's exploration of urban America from twilight to dawn. In this series, she focuses on evocative spaces like vacant buildings, shuttered storefronts, and empty streets that are generally devoid of people. Co-sponsored by Sterling Bank.

Saville will be one of the panelists in *Women Making Art* on Thursday, August 18, at 6 P.M. Moderated by MMFA Curator Jennifer Jankauskas, Saville along with painter Elana Hagler, sculptor Rachel Wright, and quiltmaker Louisiana Bendolph will reflect on their diverse ways of working and their experiences as women in the art world. Immediately following the discussion, Saville will autograph her new monograph, *Dark City* during a book signing.

The *Women's Work*, *Photorealism*, and *Lynn Saville* exhibitions open this Saturday, July 2, at 10 A.M.

Attempting to capture everyday life, the artists featured in *Taking It to the Streets* find the beautiful, the poignant, and the poetic in the mundane. Working in the tradition of street photography, these artists give life to our stories, catching moments as they unfold, and then saving them for posterity. Although the history of this genre is wide-ranging, fragmented, and sporadic, it is a practice that dates back to the earliest days of the medium, which began about 1839. This exhibition will include images by Walker Evens, Lewis Wickes Hine, and Lynn Saville among others. View these works beginning Thursday, July 14. Sponsored by Max Credit Union.

On view now in the Weil Print study, *Harmonics: Joe Almyda's Works on Paper* contains ten works on paper produced by painter/printmaker Joe Almyda. Almyda shared his passion for abstraction and served as a mentor for his students and other younger artists in the Atlanta area when he taught at Georgia State University in the late 1950s and early 1960s. While he began his career as a figurative painter, Almyda eventually created multiple series of prints produced at well-known print ateliers such as the Tamarind Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Co-sponsored by Trustmark.

Each exhibition is organized by the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. For more information about the shows and related programs visit our website at www.mmfa.org.

The Museum, located at One Museum Drive, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.; Thursday from 10 A.M. to 9 P.M.; and Sunday 12 noon to 5 P.M. The Museum Store is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.; and Sunday, 12 noon to 4 P.M. Admission is free and donations are welcome. For more information, call the MMFA at 334.240.4333.

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