



Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts News Release

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New Exhibition Celebrating Alabama's Bicentennial and *Artist Market* Coming to the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts in November

Montgomery, AL, November 2, 2017– In what are sure to be highlight experiences of this holiday season, the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts will host two celebrations of contemporary southern artists: the eighth annual *Artist Market* and unveiling of the *Uncommon Territory: Contemporary Art in Alabama* exhibition commemorating Alabama's Bicentennial. The festivities begin, November 17.

The MMFA will host a preview party for *Artist Market* on Friday, November 17 from 5:30 to 8 P.M. Just in time for the gift-giving season, this special event allows guests to shop early and to mix and mingle with the artists while enjoying hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. *Artist Market* continues Saturday from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. in the Lowder Gallery and Rotunda of the MMFA.

This year's *Artist Market* will feature works for sale by 30 artists from Alabama and Georgia. Additionally, the Museum Store will be stocked with handcrafted paintings, drawings, pottery, glass, textiles, woodcarvings, distinctive jewelry, and more by local and regional artists. The Museum Store is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 A.M. to 4 P.M. and Sunday, 12 noon to 4 P.M. Admission to the MMFA and *Artist Market* is FREE.

The MMFA is grateful to Stifel Investment Services for sponsoring the two days of *Artist Market* events. Both the artists and the Museum will benefit from the proceeds of the 2017 *Artist Market*.

In another celebration of local artists, the Museum is pleased to debut its latest temporary exhibition *Uncommon Territory: Contemporary Art in Alabama*. In honor of the 200th anniversary of Alabama's organization as a United States territory, *Uncommon Territory* recognizes 30 artists/collaborative teams in a survey that showcases a cross-section of the exciting and challenging art currently produced in the state. View the exhibition when it opens Friday, November 17 at 10 A.M. through January 21, 2018.

Many of the selected artists demonstrate sustained levels of significant accomplishment both in and out of the state while others are at the beginning of their careers display growth and distinction. Each of the artists creates art that is relevant at this precise moment and contributes to the current vitality of artistic creativity found throughout the state.

The opening reception for *Uncommon Territory* on Thursday, November 30 at 5:30 P.M. and will include hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. At 7 P.M., exhibition curator Jennifer Jankauskas, Ph.D., will moderate a panel discussion with artists Katie Baldwin, Claire Lewis Evans, Stacey Holloway, and Jürgen Tarrasch to reflect on their diverse ways of working.

Uncommon Territory has been made possible in part by a major grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts in celebration of the Bicentennial of the State of Alabama. The Museum is grateful to exhibition sponsors Joan Loeb, Sterling Bank, and Warren Averett.

For more information on the *Artist Market* and *Uncommon Territory*, call the MMFA at 334.240.4333 or visit the website at www.mmfa.org.

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