



Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts News Release
Contact: Cynthia Milledge: 334.625.4369; cmilledge@mmfa.org



Four Must-See Fall Exhibitions at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

Montgomery, AL, September 6, 2018– The summer may be winding down, but the fall season at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts is getting started with an impressive roster of exhibitions to close out 2018. From an exhibition inspired by the “Four Freedoms” speech of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to the works of a Maestro in the world of glass art, Lino Tagliapietra, these exhibitions will introduce visitors to an array of artistic expression rarely on view in Montgomery.

EXHIBITIONS

For Freedoms: Citizenship and Art September 15 through November 18, 2018

In his State of the Union address in 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt laid out the goals, or “Four Freedoms,” that he believed were the fundamental and essential rights of people not only in our American democracy, but also around the world. These “Four Freedoms” encompassed Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Worship—both protected in the First Amendment of our Constitution—along with Freedom from Want and Freedom from Fear. More than 75 years later, each of these ideals of freedom is still contested.

Many artists of the 20th and 21st centuries have tackled these ideals in a variety of ways, perhaps most notably Norman Rockwell, who illustrated Roosevelt’s call to action in 1943. In conjunction with “For Freedoms | The 50 State Initiative,” the exhibition *For Freedoms: Citizenship and Art* at the MMFA is intended to bring awareness to the value of active participation in our American democracy by examining varying artists’ interpretations of the “Four Freedoms” as identified by Roosevelt, challenging each of us to consider the importance of these rights to Americans today. Works of art drawn from the MMFA permanent collection depicting various interpretations of these four rights demonstrate how art possesses the power to address cultural issues, to enlighten, and to ultimately to unite all citizens in striving for the common good.

**Continuum: 1808 to 2017/Goya to Erdreich
September 29, 2018 through January 6, 2019**

Birmingham artist Beverly Erdreich worked primarily as a painter, mostly in an abstract, lyrical style for most of her career, which began in the mid-20th century. However, once the Pandora's Box of man's inhumanity toward his fellow man opened for Erdreich after September 11, 2001, she felt compelled to make art that addresses the social malaise characteristic of our world today.

The artist's latest series was inspired by her abiding interest in art history, and the relationship between her contemporary concerns and that of artists of the past. *Continuum* presents a group of her drawings that were conceived as variations of compositions by the great Spanish painter/printmaker Francisco de Goya y Lucientes (1746–1828). Between 1810 and 1820, he created a series of etchings now known as *The Disasters of War*, inspired by the terrible violence that accompanied the Peninsular War of 1808–1814.

Erdreich's drawings are created atop reproductions of these powerful compositions, bringing the stinging brutality of Goya's interpretation of 19th-century atrocities into a modern context. Works such as *Enterrar y Callar (Bury Them and Keep Quiet)* in Goya's time referenced political executions, but Erdreich's piece calls attention to the plight of migrants who perish in the Mediterranean Sea while bound for Europe. Other compositions address the international problems of extrajudicial executions, terrorist actions, and violence against women.

**Views of the South: Photographs from the Do Good Fund
September 25, 2018 through January 6, 2019**

The Do Good Fund was established in Columbus, Georgia in 2012 to build a museum-quality collection of contemporary southern photographs, to display them in museums, galleries, and nontraditional venues, and to encourage community-based programming with each exhibition. The collection has grown to almost 500 photos created by 83 artists since World War II, and images from the collection have been featured in more than a dozen exhibitions across the South.

Images on view at the MMFA will reflect distinctive photographic practices devoted to an exploration of life in the South over the last 70 years. Like many other forms of art, the photographs combine beauty with an invitation to reflect more deeply on their subjects—and look at them anew.

A companion exhibition will be on view at The Archibald Center of the Montgomery Area Council on Aging (MACOA) 115 East Jefferson Street in downtown Montgomery October 1 through October 28, 2018.

The MMFA is delighted to partner with the Montgomery Area Council on Aging to present this second group of 12 photographs from the Do Good Fund at The Archibald Center. This outreach exhibition will connect the Museum to a new audience in downtown Montgomery, and encourage viewers to see the larger exhibition in the MMFA galleries. The Museum's educators and docents will be sharing programs that focus on these photographs at that venue with the Center's clients.

Lino Tagliapietra: Master of Beauty

November 10, 2018 through January 20, 2019

Lino Tagliapietra (Italian, born 1934) combines the techniques, colors, motifs, and forms that he mastered as a glassblower in the factories of his native Murano, Italy, with innovative ideas gathered from his travels, teaching, and encounters with American Studio Glass artists. The glass pieces he produced since the beginning of his independent artistic career in 1979—when he began teaching at Pilchuck Glass School in Washington—are stunning explorations that transform his concepts into fluid sculptural forms. Tagliapietra's mastery of glass and his depth of understanding of the material is apparent in his ability to stretch and bend it into elegant and elongated shapes with both smooth and etched surfaces. These elements, merged with his characteristic inventiveness, established Tagliapietra as an artist who has had a profound impact on glassmaking over the course of his long and distinguished career. *Lino Tagliapietra: Master of Beauty* features 40 pieces created since the late 1990s with examples from several of his most important series.

The exhibition is sponsored by Hyundai Motor Manufacturing, Winifred and Charles A. Stakely, Laura and Barrie Harmon, and Dawn and Adam Schloss.

The Museum, located at One Museum Drive, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM; Thursday from 10 AM to 9 PM; and Sunday Noon to 5 PM. The Museum Store is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 AM to 4 PM; and Sunday, Noon to 4 PM. Admission is free and donations are welcome. For more information, call at 334.625.4333.

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Eliot Dudik, *Condemned, Ashepoo River*, date unknown, archival pigment print, © Eliot Dudik, The Do Good Fund Inc., 2013-4

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