



MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM *of* ART
380 South Lamar Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

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Mississippi Museum of Art Presents
Art by Choice Exhibition, Sale and Auction
August 20 through September 11, 2011

(Jackson, Miss.) ... Back by popular demand, the New Collectors Club and the Mississippi Museum of Art (the Museum) present *Art by Choice*, an exhibition, sale, and auction of artworks to benefit the Museum's acquisition of new art and Museum operations. The Museum has curated a selection of museum-quality works by artists associated with Mississippi as well as works from galleries in New York, Boston, Memphis, and New Orleans. Featured artists also benefit from work sold on consignment.

The art will be available for purchase on the evening of Friday, August 26, in the *Art by Choice* Sale and Live Auction. Reservations are \$50 per person, and open to the public. VIP reservations are available for \$100 per person and entitle guests to view and purchase artwork at 6 PM before other reservation holders are allowed in at 7 PM. The live auction begins at 8 PM preceded by cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and music by Patrick Harkins.

Museum Director Betsy Bradley said, "We look forward to hosting *Art by Choice* each year because it offers both new and experienced collectors the opportunity to view and purchase artwork not readily available in Mississippi. We

do, however, have a good number of Mississippi artists represented this year. Because most of the artwork is presented as an exhibition, there is no hard sell or pressure to buy. This is a very customer friendly event."

Art By Choice is sponsored by Metropolitan Bank.

"Metropolitan Bank is thrilled to be a part of the Mississippi Museum of Art's long and respected history of bringing the arts to Mississippians," says Curt Gabardi, Metropolitan Bank president and CEO. "'Choice,' or how, when and where to bank, is an important part of Metropolitan's approach to client service, so there simply couldn't be a more fitting exhibit for us to sponsor than *Art by Choice*."

Members of the Museum staff and the Museum's New Collectors Club have selected a variety of works by artists associated with Mississippi as well as works from galleries in Boston, Memphis, New Orleans, and New York for inclusion in the exhibition. Participating galleries include Arthur Roger Gallery, New Orleans, La.; Jonathan Ferrara Gallery, New Orleans, La.; Sragow Gallery, New York, NY; Spanierman Gallery, LLC, New York, NY; Childs Gallery, Boston, Mass.; David Lusk Gallery, Memphis, Tenn.; Dusti Bongé Art Foundation, Biloxi, Miss.; and Susan Schulman Printseller/Carolyn Bullard Fine Prints, New York, NY.

Items for sale include works by national, regional, and local artists. The list includes, among many others, Dusti Bongé, Jason Bouldin, Elizabeth Catlett, Dale Chihuly, William Eggleston, Sam Gilliam, Valerie Jaudon, Randy Hayes, Mary Lovelace O'Neal, Betty Parsons, and Ed McGowin. All of the artwork can

be seen in the *Art by Choice* exhibition, on view August 20 - September 10 in The Donna and Jim Barksdale Galleries for Changing Exhibitions at the Mississippi Museum of Art. The art sale will continue through September 11.

Said Steven Chevalier, president of the New Collectors Club, "As always, *Art by Choice* will offer art works in all mediums and at all price points. This is a great event to both support the Mississippi Museum of Art and also to add a wonderful piece of museum-caliber art to your collection. I encourage everyone to attend this event and to take home a great work of art."

Reservations for the *Art By Choice* Sale and Live Auction can be purchased through The Museum Store at www.store.msmuseumart.org or by calling the Museum at 601-960-1515. Information about Art by Choice is also available on the Museum's website at www.msmuseumart.org.

The New Collectors Club is a Museum support group which was formed to encourage new collectors and to stimulate interest in art. The group includes individuals who are new to collecting art as well as those who have been collecting for a lifetime. Club membership is open to all Museum members. For more information about the New Collectors Club, contact Beth Batton at 601-960-1515, 1-800-VIEW ART (843-9278), or at bbatton@msmuseumart.org.

There will be a guided tour of the *Art by Choice* exhibition on Tuesday, August 23, at 6:30 PM. Admission is FREE for the *Art by Choice* exhibition and the guided tour.

The Mississippi Museum of Art is located at 380 South Lamar Street in downtown Jackson, Mississippi. Museum hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, noon - 5:00 p.m. Closed Monday.

The Mississippi Museum of Art and its programs are sponsored in part by the city of Jackson and the Jackson Convention & Visitors Bureau. Support is also provided in part by funding from the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, and in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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