



MEDIA ALERT

For more information contact:

Kathleen Glass
Communications Manager
Asheville Art Museum
828.253.3227, ext. 116
kglass@ashevilleart.org

High resolution images for the following programs and exhibitions are available upon request.

Asheville Art Museum Announces End of Year (2012) Public Programs, Educational Opportunities, and Exhibition Closings & Openings

ASHEVILLE, NC — Below is a current schedule of the Asheville Art Museum's schedule of events **through the month of December 2012**. High resolution images are available upon request.

Friday, November 16 (12:00– 1:00 p.m.)

Lunchtime Art Break: *Chasing the Image: Madeleine Lord and Sally Massengale*

Led by Museum Curator Frank Thomson

Museum visitors will enjoy a guided tour and discussion of current exhibition ***Chasing the Image: Madeleine Lord and Sally Massengale*** on Friday, November 16 from 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. (free with Membership or Museum Admission).

Both Madeleine Lord and Sally Massengale are figurative artists who handle their materials with great energy and fluidity. A graduate of Smith College (B.A., Studio Art), Madeleine d'Ivry Lord (b. 1949) has worked both large public works as well as smaller steel sculptures for homes and gardens. Many of the early sculptural works in this exhibition combine the artist's developed graphic and painting skills with her newly discovered pleasure in working with iron.

Sally McLaughlin Massengale (b. 1953) is an expressive painter who works mainly in oil, her subjects almost always drawn from real life. Working within traditional genres, she paints still-life, landscapes and portraits; her family and home life are frequently used as the subjects of her work. The artist received her Bachelor's degree in Studio Art from Yale University in 1976. According to Thomson, a significant influence upon the artist during her studies at Yale was the painter Bernard Chaet, through whom Massengale "gained a connection to second-generation New York School influences, including a belief in energetic drawing and mark-making that engages the viewer with process."



Chasing the Image: Madeleine Lord and Sally Massengale was organized by Guest Curator Dr. James P.W. Thompson.

Sunday, November 25 (1:00 – 5:00 p.m.)

Last Day to View: *Mel Chin: High, Low and In Between*

Asheville Art Museum | East Wing Gallery (Main Level)

Recognized as an important artist of our time, artist Mel Chin's work evades easy classification. Analytical and poetic, he combines cross-cultural aesthetics and complex ideas, exploring natural and social ecology and the role of art in provoking greater social awareness and responsibility. Mel Chin is known for the broad range of approaches in his art, including works that require multi-disciplinary, collaborative teamwork and works that conjoin cross-cultural aesthetics with complex ideas.

Alongside other original installations by the artist, *Mel Chin: High, Low and In Between* features a new installation of *The Funk & Wag from A to Z*, originally curated by Ann Harithas for the Nave Museum in Victoria, TX. As in the original installation, Chin extracts images from all 25 volumes of the 1953 Funk & Wagnall's Encyclopedia and reconfigures them as collages, unleashing the potentiality of images trapped by historical context in this new configuration of the work for the Asheville Art Museum. Through Chin's creation of over five hundred dramatic, black and white collages, compelling new political and psychological associations emerge to confound and inspire.

Friday, November 30 (12:00 – 1:00 p.m.)

Lunchtime Art Break: *Robert Morris: Mind / Body / Earth*

Led by Museum Curator Frank Thomson

The Asheville Art Museum is pleased to present a guided tour and discussion of [*Robert Morris: Mind/Body/Earth*](#), a current exhibition featuring a wide range of works by the contemporary artist, including selections of his prints, drawings, sculpture and video works.

Early in his career, Robert Morris was involved with improvisational theater, film and painting. He moved to New York City in 1961 and completed graduate work in art history, earning a master's degree at Hunter College in 1963. Morris's theoretical writings, essentially a manifesto on Minimalism appearing in *Artforum* magazine between 1966 and 1970, sought to explain various developments in the visual arts in those decades. The artist also developed a large body of work in the 1960s ranging from monochrome Minimalist pieces, to original performance productions, to works of industrial felt. Later the artist also became known for his so-called *anti-form* works, Earthworks and *Earth Projects* series, and *Blind Time Drawings*. Examples of these and other works by the artist are on view in this exhibition through January 27, 2013.



Sunday, December 2 (12:00 – 6:00 p.m.)

The Big Crafty

Asheville Art Museum

FREE Admission

The Big Crafty returns to the Asheville Art Museum and Pack Place this winter for its 10th celebration (5th year) of handmade commerce. This unique craft fair features 75 independent craft artisans working in a wide range of media. While shopping The Big Crafty, Museum visitors are invited to explore our galleries free of admission for the day. With the holiday season just around the corner, this festive event is a wonderful opportunity to shop locally for seasonal gifts while supporting Western North Carolina's talented artists. New among craft artisans participating in The Big Crafty are painter Marie McMahon, sculptor Karen Ives, printmaker Stephanie Harvey, metal artist Georgeann Stewart (By George), metal artist Mark Schieferstein (SkrapMonkey), and Good Girl Studio.

Friday, December 7 (12:00 – 1:00 p.m.)

Lunchtime Art Break: *Art/Sewn*

Led by Karen Peltier, 2012 Windgate Foundation Curatorial Fellow

Join us on Friday, December 7, from Noon – 1:00 p.m. for a guided tour and discussion of current exhibition *Art/Sewn*. This exhibition of contemporary works by 11 female artists presents contemporary textile art in a variety of forms—quilts, assemblage, hangings, embroidery on cloth and paper, among others—that consciously blur the distinction between fine art and craft. *Art/Sewn* remains on view in the North Wing of the Museum through Sunday, January 6, 2013.

Lunchtime Art Breaks are a series of gallery talks and guided tours designed to inform and engage Museum patrons in dialogue with Museum Staff, Docents and other special guests. Please call Nancy Sokolove, Adult Programs Manager, at 828.253.3227 ext. 120 for more information on these and other Public Programs.

Tuesday – Sunday, December 4 – 9 (Regular Museum Hours)

2012 Holiday Market

Free Admission

Each December, the Asheville Art Museum offers holiday shoppers and Museum visitors a vast selection of handmade crafts, art books, children's gifts, holiday cards and many more gift items, including locally crafted art objects and jewelry showcasing the diverse artistic talent of Western North Carolina. The Museum invites the community to enjoy the Holiday Market free of charge during regular business hours from Tuesday, December 4 – Sunday, December 9, 2012. The Asheville Downtown Gallery Association Art Walk on Friday, December 7, offers the perfect opportunity visit the Museum's Holiday Market (extended hours until 8:00 p.m. on the evening of December 7).



Saturday + Sunday, December 8 + 9 (2:00 p.m. daily)

Film Screening: *The Secret of Kells*

Free with Membership or Museum Admission

The Secret of Kells, an award-winning film illustrated with a unique, Celtic-Irish hand-painted appearance, tells the story of a young boy who meets a master illuminator possessing an incomplete book of secret powers and wisdom. A.O. Scott, writing for *The New York Times*, called this film “Extraordinary!” and hailed it as “critic’s pick” in 2009. Film screenings at the Museum are free with Membership or Museum Admission and take place in the Museum’s East Wing upstairs Theatre/Classroom.

Sunday, December 9 (2:00 – 4:00 p.m.)

Family Art pARTy!

Free Admission

Children and families are invited to join us on Sunday, December 9 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Museum’s East Wing studio to create small sculptures with WNC artist Kenn Kotara, whose work is featured in the Museum’s new **Art pLAYce for Children** as well as the Permanent Collection. Admission to the *Family art pARTy!* is free for visitors of all ages.

This *Family Art pARTy!* is held in conjunction with the Museum Shop’s annual Holiday Market Reception and Silent Auction, taking place at the Museum from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 9.

Sunday, December 9 (1:00 – 5:00 p.m.)

Holiday Market Reception + Silent Auction

Free Admission

The Museum Shop’s annual Holiday Market Reception and Silent Auction takes place at the Museum from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 9. This special event offers the perfect opportunity to meet local artists participating in the Holiday Market, while enjoy light refreshments and bidding on exceptional gifts items and packages in our Silent Auction. All proceeds from the Silent Auction support the Museum’s exhibitions and educational programs. Admission is free to the Holiday Market, Reception and Silent Auction.

Saturday, December 15 (10:00 a.m.)

New Exhibition Opens:

Survivors and Liberators: Portraits by Wilma Bulkin Siegel

In 2003 Wilma Siegel began painting portraits of what is, sadly, a dwindling population: Holocaust survivors living in South Florida. While the number of potential subjects is vast—as many 15,000—it is hardly permanent. The realization that so many of these faces and stories are passing away has led Siegel to begin this project, which also includes World War II veterans.



Siegel's often grand-scaled watercolors are bold, direct, and very personal portraits. She incorporates photographs and other mementos belonging to the subjects into their portraits, each of which represents a casual intimacy while also serving as a chronicle, a record of a life. A short biography of the subject accompanies each portrait, retracing their route from Europe's concentration camps to life in the United States.

This exhibition was organized and curated by the Asheville Art Museum with support from Mills Manufacturing Corporation, and with special thanks to Annegreth Nill.

An Opening Reception celebrating this exhibition will take place on Saturday, January 12 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. (free with Membership or Museum Admission).

Saturday, December 15 (10:00 a.m.)

New Exhibition Opens:

In the Camps: Photographs by Erich Hartmann

Born in Munich, Germany, Erich Hartmann was sixteen when he came with his family to the United States as refugees from Nazi persecution. After the war he worked in New York City as assistant to a portrait photographer, and later as a free-lance photographer. In 1952 he was invited to join Magnum Photos, an international photographers' cooperative founded two years after the end of WWII.

Hartmann first became known to a wider public in the 1950's through a series of photo essays for *Fortune* magazine, beginning with *The Deep North* (1956). Throughout his career, he traveled widely on assignments for major magazines published in the U.S., Europe and Japan. His principal interest in photography, as in life, was the way in which people relate both to their natural surroundings and to the environments they create.

In his late years, Hartmann undertook a winter journey to photograph the mute and horrifying remains of the Nazi concentration and extermination camps, resulting in the book and exhibition ***In the Camps***, published in 1995 in four languages and exhibited in more than twenty venues in the U.S. and Europe in the years since. The Asheville Art Museum is honored to host this important and evocative exhibition.

This exhibition was organized and curated by the Asheville Art Museum with special thanks to Magnum Photography and Ruth Hartmann.

An Opening Reception celebrating this exhibition will take place on Saturday, January 12 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. (free with Membership or Museum Admission).



Friday, December 21 (12:00 – 1:00 p.m.)

Lunchtime Art Break:

Flux Cuts: Experiments in Film

Free with Membership or Museum Admission

The Asheville Art Museum celebrates the 50th anniversary year of the Fluxus art movement with an exhibition of early Fluxus videos. Organized in 1962, Fluxus, meaning “flow” in Latin, was a group of international, multi-disciplinary, independent artists inspired by the Dada movement and artist Marcel Duchamp, as well as composer and visual artist John Cage. Artists included in ***Flux Cuts: Experiments in Film*** include Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik, Paul Sharits and others.

Join us for a guided tour and discussion of this exhibition free with Membership or regular Museum Admission.

December 26 – 28 (1:00 – 4:00 p.m. daily)

Holiday Arts Extravaganza

\$18 per day for Members, \$20 per day for non-Members

This holiday season, Museum Campers in Grades 1 – 4 will enjoy fun-filled afternoons creating art of all kinds during the Holiday Arts Extravaganza. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$18 daily for Members and \$20 daily for non-Members. Please contact Sharon McRorie, School Programs Manager at 828.253.3227 ext. 122 or smcrorie@ashevilleart.org for more information and to register.

#

The Asheville Art Museum is the only nonprofit visual arts museum serving the 24 counties of Western North Carolina. Incorporated by artists in 1948, the Museum collects, preserves and interprets American art of the 20th and 21st centuries with a focus on work of significance to the Southeast.

Centrally located in downtown Asheville on Pack Square, the Museum is open 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Special docent-guided tour packages are available for groups and students.

Admission to the Museum is \$8.00 for adults and \$7.00 for seniors, students with ID and for children 4-15 (children age five and younger are admitted free). Members are admitted free to the Museum.

The Asheville Art Museum is accredited by the American Association of Museums and receives general operating support from businesses, foundations and individuals, as well as from the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency funded by the State of North Carolina, and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art. Additional support is provided by the City of Asheville and Buncombe County.

The Asheville Art Museum asks when reprinting images, please keep all artwork at their original proportions; please do not crop them or alter them disproportionately. Provided image credit information is mandatory and images are not for resale.