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The Asheville Art Museum presents Curator-Led Tour and Discussion of The Essential Idea: Robert Motherwell's Graphic Works

Art Break Friday, August 10 | Last Day to View Exhibition Sunday, August 26

ASHEVILLE, NC—The Asheville Art Museum presents a final Art Break on current exhibition ***The Essential Idea: Robert Motherwell's Graphic Works*** on **Friday, August 10 at 12:00 noon**. The Art Break includes a tour and discussion of the exhibition led by Assistant Museum Curator Cole Hendrix. Art Breaks are offered monthly to Museum Members and visitors, and typically include guided tours and presentations by Museum staff, docents, featured artists and other special guests. Art Breaks are free with Membership or regular Museum admission.

The Essential Idea highlights the groundbreaking work of master printmaker Robert Motherwell (1915 – 1991), who was the youngest of the first-generation Abstract Expressionists and was known as an innovator among his peers for his ability to produce stunning imagery. The works chosen for this exhibition follow the full trajectory of his career as a printmaker. **Visitors are encouraged to attend this Art Break and visit the exhibition once more before it comes to a close on Sunday, August 26, 2012.**

The Essential Idea: Robert Motherwell's Graphic Works is organized and curated by the Asheville Art Museum with assistance from the Dedalus Foundation, Inc. The exhibition features more than 60 prints by the artist, many of which were generously loaned to the Museum by the Foundation.

About the Artist

Motherwell produced his first prints in 1943, and in 1948 began to work with his celebrated *Elegy to the Spanish Republic* theme, which he continued to develop throughout his life. In the early 1960s he expanded his print work at the invitation of the

Universal Limited Art Editions (ULAE) print studio. His later work with Tyler Graphics, Gemini Graphics Edition Limited (G.E.L.) and others evolved into an impressive body of almost 500 prints. Motherwell exhibited widely in both the United States and Europe until his death in 1991, and continues to be celebrated with countless exhibitions at well-regarded visual arts institutions such as the Museum of Modern Art, NY, and the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, among many others.

About the Asheville Art Museum

Founded by artists in 1948 in Asheville, NC, the Asheville Art Museum annually presents an exciting, inviting and active schedule of exhibitions and public programs based on its permanent collection of 20th and 21st century American art. Any visit will also include experiences with works of significance to Western North Carolina's cultural heritage including Studio Craft, Black Mountain College and Cherokee artists. Special exhibitions feature renowned regional and national artists and explore issues of enduring interest. The Museum also offers a wide array of innovative, inspiring and entertaining educational programs for people of all ages.

Special thanks to [Bold Life](#), [Verve](#) and [Carolina Home & Garden](#) magazines for their support as a Media Sponsor of the Museum for the 2013 fiscal year. For more information about media sponsorships, please email Kathleen Glass, Communications Manager, at kglass@ashevilleart.org.

Image credit: Robert Motherwell, *Africa Suite: Africa 6*, 1970, screenprint on J.B. Green paper, 40.75 x 28.25 inches. Courtesy of the Dedalus Foundation. Art copyright Dedalus Foundation, Inc. / Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY.

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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 three 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.