

## Press Release

For immediate Release  
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*Images below*



### **Museum of Sonoma County to Present Two New Exhibitions in December**

*35: Thirty-Five Artists for Thirty-Five Years and Artistry in Wood*

Available Online Beginning December 22

**(SANTA ROSA, CA)**- December 3, 2020– The Museum of Sonoma County (MSC) is pleased to present two new exhibitions in December: *35: Thirty-Five Artists for Thirty-Five Years* and *Artistry in Wood*. *35* celebrates the Museum's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a selection of artworks from the permanent collection. The annual *Artistry in Wood* exhibition is presented by the Sonoma County Woodworks Association and will feature new and previously completed works in a unique survey of fine woodwork from the North Bay. Originally scheduled to be presented in-person on December 12, both exhibitions will now be available in virtual form on the Museum's website beginning **December 22, 2020**, with the ability to be viewed in-person when the Museum is permitted to reopen, through March 2021.

#### ***35: Thirty-Five Artists for Thirty-Five Years***

The Museum, a Smithsonian Affiliate, was founded in 1985 and began building its collection of historical objects, archival materials, photographs, and original art well before MSC's official grand opening. The overarching mission during these past thirty-five years has been a focus on Sonoma County and the North Bay. Now, more than three decades later, MSC has built its collection from humble beginnings into the largest comprehensive overview of the history, art, and culture of the region. Artworks make up a significant part of this collection and the building of the collection is ongoing.

Over the years, the collection has grown to include artworks ranging from works on paper, to photographs, paintings, sculpture, ceramics, and crafts, spanning over a century of art-making, from the 19th to the 21st Century. With this in mind, the artworks selected for *35* explore a broad range of media and styles. Of particular interest are themes that are recurring in MSC's collecting practices, such as landscape and the environment, social commentary, mixed media experimentation, and abstraction.

While the collection may reflect a variety of media and styles, the Museum acknowledges and regrets that it does not properly celebrate the full range of artists

who have lived and worked in this region. With refocused collecting priorities and a keen eye on works by artists of all genders and artists of color, MSC's aim is to ensure that all members of the community will see themselves reflected in the collection.

"MSC's collection has grown because of the support of collectors, artists, and donors, and we are grateful for their generosity," says Nathanson. "We are proud of the art we have accessioned to date, and are pleased to share this sampling with the public. We hope these excellent works provoke inspiration, conversation, and creativity."

### **Artists included in 35: Thirty-Five Artists for Thirty-Five Years:**

- Adela Akers
- Barnee Alexander
- Chester Arnold
- John Bankston
- Jonathan Barbieri
- Carroll Barnes
- Raymond Barnhart
- Mary Belle Blackstone
- Donna Brookman
- Enrique Chagoya
- Christo and Jeanne-Claude
- Maria de Los Angeles
- Florence Dixon
- Otto Hagel
- Frank O. Hamilton
- Meg Hitchcock
- Elizabeth Hoen
- Robert Hudson
- David Huffman
- Kurt Kemp
- Maurice Lapp
- Pat Lenz
- Hansel Mieth
- Monty Monty
- Ursula Fahner Noonan
- Gloria T. Pomo
- Diane Rosenblum
- John Sappington
- Richard Shaw
- Hassel Smith
- Mario Uribe
- Linda Vallejo
- Marguerite Wildenhain
- Robert Williams
- Jean Yates

### ***Artistry in Wood***

For over thirty years, the Museum of Sonoma County and the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association (SCWA) have collaborated to present an annual, juried showcase of fine regional woodwork.

During these unprecedented times of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Museum continues the legacy of this long-running exhibition by presenting *Artistry in Wood* in slightly different form. This year's exhibition combines new and previously completed works in a unique survey of fine woodwork from our region.

The exhibition reflects the legacy of arts and crafts on California's north coast, as well as the local resonance between wood and the landscape. The work in the exhibition shows historical and regional influences, such as the distinctive style exemplified by the woodworking program at The Krenov School at Mendocino College, led for many years

by James Krenov. *Artistry in Wood* is also known for work that pushes the boundaries of wood as a medium. The large-scale work in the Museum's sculpture garden, *Sequoia*, by local artist Bruce Johnson, is representative of the bold approach taken by some of the artists who have exhibited their work in this show.

While slightly revised, this installment of *Artistry in Wood* upholds the high standards and traditions of artistic expression from past exhibitions. All works are meticulously crafted by members of the association and represent creative possibilities with the medium of wood, craftsmanship, and art.

**Sponsorship opportunities** for both exhibitions are available. Contact Maggie Stockel, Development Manager, [mstockel@museumsc.org](mailto:mstockel@museumsc.org), (707) 579-1500 ext. 104.

**For more information, please visit:**

*35: Thirty-Five Artists for Thirty-Five Years:* <https://museumsc.org/35-exhibition/>

*Artistry in Wood:* <https://museumsc.org/2020-artistry-in-wood/>

## [Programs and Events](#)

### **(Virtual) Members-Only Dual Opening Reception**

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

7:00-8:30pm

Join us for an exclusive virtual opening reception to celebrate our two newest exhibitions! Get the first look at the works in the shows and participate in a live Q&A session with the exhibition organizers. Members of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association (SCWA) are also invited to register for free.

Additional programs to be added shortly. Details and registration available on our website: [www.museumsc.org/events](http://www.museumsc.org/events).

## [About the Museum of Sonoma County](#)

**COVID-19 Update:** The Museum of Sonoma County's indoor galleries and sculpture garden are currently closed to the public. A menu of online offerings, including virtual tours of recent exhibitions, free art lessons, recordings of public programs, and more is available on our website. We look forward to reopening as soon as it is safe to do so.

Located in Downtown Santa Rosa on Seventh Street between A and B Streets, the Museum of Sonoma County (MSC) presents exhibitions of modern and contemporary

art and local and regional history. MSC is open year-round with changing exhibitions, public programs, school tours, and special events. MSC preserves and manages a regional art and history collection of over 18,000 objects, the region's largest object documentation of Sonoma County's history and culture.

### **Mission**

The Museum of Sonoma County engages and inspires our diverse community with art and history exhibitions, collections, and public programs that are inclusive, educational, and relevant.

### **Smithsonian Affiliate**

The Museum of Sonoma County has been a Smithsonian Affiliate since 2009. Smithsonian Affiliations establishes long-term partnerships with museums, education and cultural organizations to facilitate the loan of Smithsonian artifacts and traveling exhibitions, as well as to develop innovative educational collaborations locally and nationally. Created in 1996 by an act of the Smithsonian Board of Regents, the program is overseen by the Smithsonian's Assistant Secretary for Education and Access and is one of the pillars of the Institution's national outreach efforts. There are more than 200 Smithsonian Affiliates in nearly every state, Puerto Rico and Panama. Affiliates represent the diversity of America's museum community—size, location and subject—and serve all audiences. More than 8,000 Smithsonian artifacts have been displayed at Affiliate locations for the past 20 years.

### **Museum of Sonoma County**

425 Seventh Street  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
707-579-1500  
[www.museumsc.org](http://www.museumsc.org)

Images ([click here](#) to view and download)



Meg Hitchcock, *Solstice*, 1995, featured in *35: Thirty-Five Artists for Thirty-Five Years*

Robert Williams, *Errant Levity (The Jockey)*, 2014, featured in *35: Thirty-Five Artists for Thirty-Five Years*



Joe Scannell, *Canvasback Love*, 2018, featured in *Artistry in Wood*



Turned Vessels by John Cobb, featured in *Artistry in Wood*