

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Albany Institute of History & Art

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITION TO OPEN AT ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Small and Seductive: Contemporary Art from the Institute's Collection will open May 3

ALBANY, NY— On Saturday, May 3, 2014, the Albany Institute of History & Art will open *Small and Seductive: Contemporary Art from the Institute's Collection*, a new exhibition in a series to highlight its contemporary art collection. The exhibition will run from May 3 until September 28, 2014. It features fifty paintings and sculptures of smaller proportions by some of the Upper Hudson Valley's most ingenious and talented artists.

Sometimes intimate, occasionally intricate, but always intriguing, small works of art invite us to step close and peer into their spatially bounded world. Though small in size, their jewel-like color, pattern, and intricate detail captivate. Compelling contemporary art need not always be of sizeable dimensions as this exhibition proves that small can be seductive!

Many of the pieces in the exhibition present powerful statements as single objects of visionary perspicacity, but others work together to form a sizeable series or unite into a bold visual presence, such as *Smokerise Circle* by Michael McKay, the Institute's recent purchase at the 2013 Exhibition of the Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region, or Gayle Johnson's reflective series of self portraits. Other artists represented in the exhibition include Fern T. Apfel, whose *Song Sparrow* entices viewers with probing fascination like a cabinet of curiosities, and William Wilson, whose *Making Believe* shocks and humors simultaneously as it reinterprets the Dutch master Jan Vermeer. In addition, this exhibition features paintings by Judy Alderfer-Abbott, David Austen, Richard Callner, Robert Cartmell, Carol Caruso, Marcia Clark, David Dwight Coughtry, Richard Garrison, Allan Gussow, Katharine Kreisher, Ted Lind, Harold Lohner, Willie Marlowe, Doretta Miller, Tom Nelson, Thom O'Connor, Harry Orlyk, Ariel Pannenberg, Marjorie Portnow, Jason Stewart, Peter Taylor, Laura Von Rosk, George Wexler, William Wilson, and Deborah Zlotzky. It also includes several sculptural works by artists Dennis Byng, Benigna

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Chilla, Allen Grindle, Larry Kagan, Paul Mauren, Antoni Milkowski, Bill Schade, Lynn Talbot, and Wendy Ide Williams.

On Friday, August 1, 2014 at 6PM, a number of artists featured in *Small and Seductive* will be at the Albany Institute of History & Art as part of a special 1st Friday event. The public is invited to attend for free. It will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with local, contemporary artists and visit the Albany Institute.

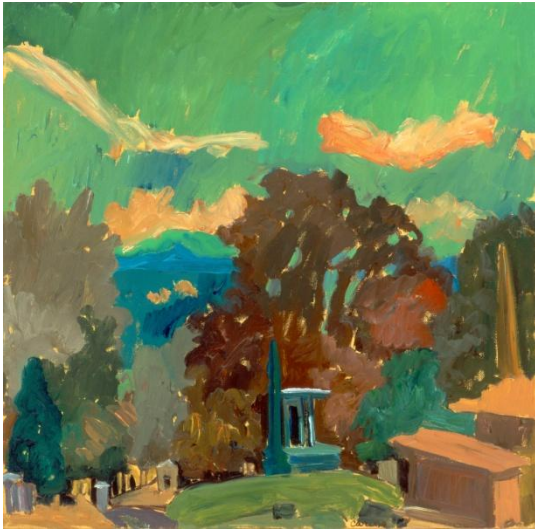
The *Small and Seductive: Contemporary Art from the Institute's Collection* exhibition will be displayed at the Albany Institute of History & Art, located at 125 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York. The museum is open Wednesday-Saturday 10AM-5PM, Thursdays until 8PM*, and Sunday Noon-5PM. On Tuesdays, the museum is open to registered groups only. The museum is closed on Mondays and some holidays. Admission is free for Institute members; \$10/adults; \$8/seniors; \$8/students with ID; \$6/children 6-12; FREE/children under 6. We are now offering free admission on Thursdays from 5PM-8PM. For more information, visit www.albanyinstitute.org or call (518) 463-4478.

SAMPLES OF WORKS ON DISPLAY



Making Believe (after a painting by Jan Vermeer)
William Wilson
1991
Oil on copper, ht. 11 ½" x w. 10"
Signed lower right "Wilson 1991"
Albany Institute of History & Art
Purchase via Contemporary Art
Collections Fund, 1992.37.1

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Albany Rural Cemetery
Carol Caruso
1997
Oil on canvas
Albany Institute of History & Art
Purchase, 1999.021



Untitled
Dennis E. Byng (b. 1927)
1974
Cast Lucite, ht 11 5/8" x w. 11 7/8" x d.
11 5/8"
Signed and inscribed on bottom: Byng
74 A 70 2.2
Albany Institute of History & Art
Purchase, 1992.32.2

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The Albany Institute's distinguished collections and acclaimed exhibitions comprise the definitive expression of the cultural, historical, and artistic heritage of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley. From its world-renowned Hudson River School collection, to the famous Albany Mummies, to the wide range of lectures, outstanding educational and family programming, and special events, this distinctive and engaging institution provides visitors of all ages and interests with a splendid museum experience. One of America's oldest museums, the Albany Institute of History & Art was founded in 1791, during the presidency of George Washington, making it older than the Louvre, the Smithsonian, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

For more information, please visit www.albanyinstitute.org and be sure to follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute).

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