NEWS RELEASE

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Please Post Until End Date
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 23, 2012

Recent Acquisitions
November 15 – March 15, 2013
(Closed November 22 – 26 and December 10 – January 21, 2013 for holidays and winter break)

Wednesday, November 14th, 5 – 7pm: Opening Reception and Special Event: Adopt an Artwork!
Come view in person all the artworks up for “adoption” in the exhibition Recent Acquisitions.
(Details below)

The UMCA’s Permanent Collection is a vital part of the museum's programs. Since its inception in 1962 the collection has grown each year, through gifts and selected purchases, to include today 2,800 master works of art on paper (prints, drawings, and photographs) by modern and contemporary artists. Collection building is an important museum mandate. In acquiring new works, it is important to select those that enhance the breadth and depth of the institution’s holdings and provide a range of opportunities for presentation and interpretation.

The UMCA has been fortunate to receive several important gifts over the last year, which will be on view here for the first time. This exhibition honors and celebrates these donors and supporters who have made possible the growth of this distinguished archive, as well as the artists who represent the vitality and richness of art-making today.

Included in this exhibition is a major gift of eight print portfolios published by Exit Art, a New York nonprofit cultural center which closed its doors in 2011, after three decades as a showcase of avant-garde work by artists from around the world. These portfolios, dating from 1999 – 2011, contain works by 50 renowned artists, spanning a range of printmaking processes such as Iris prints, woodcuts, hydraulic embossing, experimental silk screens, laser cuts, lithographs, monographs, and prints on rubber. The prints in Exit Art’s portfolios have been produced by some of the most respected and well-known artists in New York and internationally such as David Byrne; Richard Tuttle; Nari Ward; Pat Steir; Do-Ho Suh; Marina Abramovic; Diana Al-Hadid; Robert Kushner; and Isabella Kirkland, among many others. These portfolios were a gift from the board of Exit Art under the recommendation of 30 year board member Jerry Kearns, also a faculty member of the UMass Art Department.

Among the new additions to the collection, the exhibition will include works by the following artists:

David Goldblatt (b. 1930) is one of the most acclaimed South African photographers, noted for his portrayal of South Africa during the period of apartheid and more recently that country's landscapes. His gift to the UMCA collection, Stalled municipal housing scheme, Lady Grey, Eastern Cape (2006), appeared in his retrospective exhibition David Goldblatt: Intersections Intersected held at the UMCA in 2010.

American photographer Robert Mapplethorpe (1946-1989) captured the essence of the New York cultural scene in the late 1970s and 1980s through his portraits of artists, writers, musicians, designers, dealers, actors, and actresses.
Though known to many for his controversial sexual images, Mapplethorpe’s most lasting legacy—and the largest portion of his oeuvre—is his striking portraiture. Cookie Mueller, 1978, is a gift from the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation.

New York-based artist Ryan McGinness (b.1972) utilizes the universal visual language of corporate logos and public signage to create lively, iconic artwork. He recycles certain motifs, incorporating pop cultural and art historical references as well as ornamental embellishment to create a dazzling visual system of his own making. McGinness’ silkscreen printed on a laminated wood skateboard deck is a gift to the collection from Donald Taglialetella and World House Editions, Middlebury, Connecticut.

Barbara Morgan (1900 – 1992) is an American photographer best known for her depictions of modern dancers. The most recent gift from the Barbara Morgan Archive to the UMass Dance Program includes lesser known but no less fascinating examples of Morgan’s vintage work, such as still-lifes, photomontage work, and experimental light drawings.

Stephen Petegorsky is a dynamic participant in the Pioneer Valley artistic community. Corn Debris On Snow, 2007, is from his series The Meadows, an agricultural tract of land close to Northampton, MA, where Petegorsky has photographed for more than 20 years. The artist has donated his photograph in memory of Richard Yarde, an esteemed artist and UMass professor who died in 2011.

Avery Preesman (b. Curaçao 1968; lives and works in Amsterdam, The Netherlands) is an artist whose process-based, experiential paintings and sculptures contribute to the rebirth of abstraction today. His paintings are built from layers of color that are partly removed with a gouge, resulting in striated fields of color and light. His 2006 solo exhibition at the UMCA traveled to The Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago. The woodblock prints, which were gifted by the artist to the UMCA’s collection, were produced during the artist’s residency at the Donald Judd Foundation, Marfa, Texas.

**Adopt an Artwork!**

Help us celebrate the UMCA’s outstanding permanent collection of master contemporary works of art on paper by adopting one of the works in the Recent Acquisitions exhibition. When you adopt an artwork, you will receive a color reproduction of the artwork. In recognition, your name will appear on a label alongside the artwork you adopt, informing the public of your generous contribution.

Your adoption will support the UMCA's conservation and curatorial work to keep the museum's entire collection of 2,800 prints, drawings, and photographs dazzling and fresh for many future generations.

Adoption fees are $100 per artwork. Adopt one for yourself or give one to friends or family this holiday season! To adopt an artwork, view artworks on our website fac.umass.edu/umca and download a form to mail the address at the bottom with payment and an indication of which works you wish to adopt. Call 413-545-3670 for further details. Orders with payment must be received by December 15, 2012, to ensure proper time for delivery of your "artwork" reproduction by December 24.

**Museum Hours:** Tuesday – Friday, 11:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Saturday/Sunday 2 – 5 PM
Closed Mondays, holidays, November 22 – 26, and December 10 – January 21

University Museum of Contemporary Art
A program of the Fine Arts Center
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