

THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Eric Brockman, Marketing and Communications Manager

(937) 512-0142 or ebrockman@daytonartinstitute.org

Photos available online at: www.daytonartinstitute.org/info/news_pressroom.html

THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES 2010 SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS SCHEDULE

(DAYTON, OHIO) – August 20, 2009 – The Dayton Art Institute has announced its 2010 special exhibitions schedule, which focuses on three diverse facets of American art: the lush works of the California Impressionist movement, abstract art of the mid-20th century, and a celebration of African-American art.

The 2010 exhibition lineup consists of:

- ***All Things Bright and Beautiful: California Impressionist Paintings from the Irvine Museum***
February 20, 2010 – June 13, 2010
- ***Modern Masters from the Smithsonian American Art Museum***
July 24, 2010 – October 10, 2010
- ***100 Years of African-American Art: The Arthur Primas Collection***
November 6, 2010 – January 30, 2011

In conjunction with *100 Years of African-American Art*, The Dayton Art Institute will also host a retrospective of works by noted Dayton artist Willis “Bing” Davis.

All Things Bright and Beautiful is comprised of 60 important California Impressionist paintings from the collections of the Irvine Museum. It is the only museum in California dedicated to the preservation and display of California Impressionism, or Plein-Air paintings.

This beautiful and important regional variant of American Impressionism flourished in California from 1890 to 1930 and principally featured landscapes that document the lush splendor of California before the state's huge population growth and mass urbanization.

The exhibition *Modern Masters from the Smithsonian American Art Museum* features 43 key paintings and sculptures by 31 of the most celebrated artists who came to maturity in the 1950s. *Modern Masters* examines the complex and varied nature of American abstract art in the mid-20th century through three broadly conceived themes that span two decades of creative genius – “Significant Gestures,” “Optics and Order” and “New Images of Man.” The exhibition features works by noted artists such as Sam Francis, Philip Guston, Hans Hofmann, Franz Kline, Josef Albers, Ad Reinhardt, Romare Bearden and Jim Dine.

100 Years of African-American Art presents works from the Arthur Primas collection. This significant collection of African-American art contains nearly 300 works, including paintings, sculptures, works on paper, graphics and documents, and covers a period of 150 years. The exhibition *100 Years of African-American Art* presents 75 works from the Arthur Primas collection, representing more than 30 artists. These artists, many under the extreme pressure of an unresponsive public, brought forth magnificent art which reflects the African-American experience and aesthetic.

In conjunction with *100 Years of African-American Art*, The Dayton Art Institute will collaborate with the University of Dayton on *Marking the Past/Shaping the Present: The Art of Willis Bing Davis*, which will showcase works by the noted Dayton artist. Davis attended The School of The Dayton Art Institute and has been a fixture of the Dayton arts community for several decades. The University of Dayton will display Davis' photographs and ceramics, while The Dayton Art Institute will host an exhibition of his paintings and drawings.

Ticket prices for these three special exhibitions will remain the same as the recent *William Morris* special exhibition: \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, students and groups, and \$6 for youth. Admission is free for museum members and children ages 6 and under.

To learn more about these exhibitions, please visit www.daytonartinstitute.org or call the museum at 937-223-5277. Be sure to also visit The Dayton Art Institute on Facebook and Twitter for additional information and exclusive offers.

ABOUT THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

As one of the Miami Valley's premier fine art museum, The Dayton Art Institute — which is in its 90th year — offers a full range of programming in addition to exhibiting its collection. The galleries and Museum Store are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday with extended hours on Thursday until 8 p.m. Free parking is available at the museum and the facility is fully accessible to physically-challenged visitors. CAFÉ MONET by Elegant Fare serves lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For more information, please call 937-223-4278 or visit www.daytonartinstitute.org.

The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The DAI also receives support from the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District.

#