



PRESS RELEASE

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TAMPA MUSEUM OF ART ANNOUNCES FALL EXHIBITIONS

SELF-TAUGHT GENIUS: TREASURES FROM THE AMERICAN FOLK ART MUSEUM

On view October 1, 2016 through January 16, 2017

The groundbreaking exhibition *Self-Taught Genius: Treasures from the American Folk Art Museum* will be on view at the Tampa Museum of Art from October 1, 2016, through January 8, 2017. The exhibition highlights the roles of self-taught artists as central figures to the shared history of America whose contributions to the national life and conversation are paramount. *Self-Taught Genius: Treasures from the American Folk Art Museum* is organized by the American Folk Art Museum. The exhibition and the national tour are made possible by generous funding from the Henry Luce Foundation, as part of its 75th anniversary initiative. Locally, the exhibition is presented by Bank of America.

The exhibition presents an original premise that considers the changing implications of self-taught in the United States from a deeply entrenched and widespread culture of self-education in the early national period to its usage today to describe artists working outside the art historical canon and often in isolated circumstances.

Some 100 works by a diverse group of artists, dating from the mid-18th through the early 21st century, and representing more than 50 years of collecting by the American Folk Art Museum, will be on view.

A fully illustrated color catalogue, published by the American Folk Art Museum and Marquand Books, with essays by curators Stacy C. Hollander, Deputy Director, Chief Curator and Director of Exhibitions at the American Folk Art Museum, and Dr. Valérie Rousseau, Curator, Self-Taught Art and Art Brut at the American Folk Art Museum, will accompany the exhibition and retail in the Museum Store for \$50.00.

Presented by  Bank of America

MANUEL CARRILLO: MI QUERIDO MEXICO (MY BELOVED MEXICO)

Photographs from the Bank of America Collection

On view October 1, 2016 through January 8, 2017

Manuel Carrillo: Mi Querido México features 45 enchanting and evocative photographs from the Bank of America Collection. The exhibition reveals the warmth of Carrillo's personality and his love for his subject matter. Known as "El Maestro Mexicano" (The Mexican Master) on both sides of the border, Manuel Carrillo was born in Mexico in 1906 and died at the age of 83 in 1989. Although Carrillo didn't embrace photography until later in his life, it was clear what subjects were closest to his heart from the first time he used his camera to pursue his art: his homeland and its people, especially those in rural areas, children, the elderly and their beloved animals. Though he spent years in the United States before returning to Mexico, he didn't approach his subjects with an outsider's curiosity, but with compassion, respect and gentle humor.

In the mid-twentieth century, the sociopolitical landscape of post-Revolutionary Mexico was that of great change, and of a national effort toward establishing a unified Mexican cultural identity. Photographs helped to form a visual language that contributed to the reinforcement and the formation of its national character – and Carrillo's imagery was a contributing force as to how Mexico saw itself and how it was perceived by the rest of the world. Carrillo builds upon the works of his predecessor Manuel Álvarez Bravo and renowned American photographers, such as Paul Strand, Edward Weston and Brett Weston, who took up residence in Mexico for years at a time. A small selection of works by photographers who influenced Carrillo will also be on view

in *Mi Querido México*, including the aforementioned, as well as Ansel Adams and Edward Steichen, whose output helped shape the aesthetics and politics of Carrillo's work.

Presented by Bank of America Art in our Communities



COMPLICATED BEAUTY: CONTEMPORARY CUBAN ART

On view October 8, 2016 through January 22, 2017

Organized by the Tampa Museum of Art, in collaboration with the Bronx Museum of the Arts

Complicated Beauty, a survey of contemporary Cuban art from the 1970s to the present, is the first comprehensive Cuban art exhibitions at the Museum. Inspired by historic connections between Tampa and Havana, as well as the recent reopening of relations between the US and Cuba, *Complicated Beauty* will highlight several recent acquisitions to the Tampa Museum of Art's permanent collection. This show will also include important artworks from The Bronx Museum of the Arts permanent collection and several private collections. Altogether, some 50 artworks by more than 20 artists will offer visitors a cross-generational look at themes related to Cuban identity and the island nation's complex socio-political environment. Many of the artists celebrate the natural beauty and diversity of Cuba while also exploring notions of isolation and escape.

Featured artists include José Bedia, Tania Bruguera, Los Carpinteros, Yoan Capote, Humberto Diaz, KCHO, Glenda León, Ana Mendieta, Pedro Pablo Oliva, Mabel Poblet, Diana Fonseca Quiñones, Sandra Ramos, Lazaro Armando Saavedra, Esterio Segura, and others.

Sponsored by:



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THE CLASSICAL WORLD IN FOCUS: ANIMALS IN ANCIENT ART

On view August 24 through January 2017

In this exhibition—on view in the MacKechnie Gallery alongside a reorganized Classical World display in the Lemonopolous Gallery—visitors will see a small sampling of the roles played by animals in ancient life, myth, and art. Whether as pets or pests, beasts of burden or symbols of status, animals are often represented naturalistically in ancient art, providing a ready connection between antiquity and the present day. But as hybrid creatures combining multiple animal and human forms (such as winged horses or centaurs), animals also populated the ancient imagination, reminding us of important differences between past and present.

The artifacts and artworks on view span broad geographical areas across more than a millennium (from well before 500 BC to after AD 500), in media ranging from black-figure and red-figure pottery to sculpture in terracotta, stone, and precious metal. Alongside numerous Greek, Etruscan, and Roman works from the Museum's permanent collection are a number of significant works lent by other institutions and private collections. Most striking among these loans are a Roman marble lion sarcophagus from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and an early Christian mosaic with running dog from the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College.

Executive Director Michael Tomor remarked, "In the fall of 2016, the Tampa Museum of Art continues to interest audiences of all generations and predispositions to art by introducing the community to unique opportunities to view masterworks rarely seen in Florida's Central Gulf Coast region. *Self-Taught Genius: Masterworks from the American Folk Art Museum* closes its national tour in Tampa with an extraordinary opportunity to see three centuries of art from the most important Folk Art collections in the United States. At the same time, curated from the rich Bank of America art holdings, *Manuel Carrillo: Mi Querido Mexico (My Dear Mexico)*, handsomely captures in stunning black and white photographs the rich culture of Mexico in quiet reflections of the people and their landscape.

Complicated Beauty: Contemporary Cuban Art is the museum's first program dedicated to the diversity of style, content, and mediums of Cuban artists rarely shown in the United States. Tampa Museum of Art curators Joanna Robotham and Dr. Seth Pevnick have selected works from regional private collections, the Museum's permanent collection, and the Bronx Museum of Art's esteemed collection of contemporary Cuban art for this highly anticipated exhibition.

Finally, *Animals in Ancient Art*, featuring works from the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art alongside many from the Tampa Museum of Art permanent collection, offers a special visual discussion of the role of animals in life, myth, and art in ancient Greece and Rome.”

About the Tampa Museum of Art

The Tampa Museum of Art opened its award-winning new home in 2010 with a commitment to providing innovative public programs with a strong focus on classical, modern, and contemporary art. The Museum balances a growing collection, including one of the largest Greek and Roman antiquities collections in the southeastern United States, with a dynamic annual schedule of special exhibitions. It is the region’s largest museum devoted to art of our time and has built a reputation for embracing contemporary photography and new media; most notably, Leo Villareal’s *Sky (Tampa)*, the 14,000-square-foot LED installation on the Museum’s south façade, has become an iconic image for Tampa. Since its founding in 1979, the Museum has been dedicated to providing quality education to students and adults, with more than half of its programs offered free of charge. The Museum is home to Sono Café, a Slow Food movement café overlooking the Hillsborough River, and has emerged as Tampa’s premier venue for special events.

General Hours and Information

The Museum opens daily at 11 a.m. Hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Fridays from 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Museum’s phone number is 813.274.8130 and the website is www.tampamuseum.org. The Museum’s address is 120 W. Gasparilla Plaza. Tampa, FL 33602.



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