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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EMMETT MERRILL USES THE LITHOGRAPHIC PROCESS TO CREATE NARRATIVE PRINTS IN SHELDON EXHIBIT

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon Art Galleries presents **Emmett Merrill - Tornado**, November 5, 2021 – January 15, 2022 in the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery. A free public opening will be held **Friday**, **November 5 from 5 - 7 p.m.** Gallery hours are Tuesdays – Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information, visit <u>TheSheldon.org</u> or call 314-533-9900. More information about each individual exhibit available upon request.

The Sheldon continues to monitor the regulations and recommendations set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the City of St. Louis regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. **In accordance with City of St. Louis guidelines, we require everyone over the age of 5 wear a mask.** For an updated list health and safety guidelines for concerts and gallery exhibits please visit <u>thesheldon.org/covid-updates/</u>.



Emmett Merrill uses the lithographic process to create narrative prints which combine Americana imagery with myth. The prints deal with the emptiness of the American landscape, the derivation of ghost stories, art history objects and highway rest stop culture. The work also explores how time can move within a single visual space, similar to the way hieroglyphs exist as a contained image but can be read in the same fashion as words on a page. Objects and foliage appear scattered along the ground in the works, as if a tornado whipped through a gas station and a history museum and all artifacts landed together in the same field. The work is informed by the contrast of nature to the human made object.

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Sheldon Art Galleries / Emmett Merrill - Tornado November 3, 2021

Emmett Merrill is an artist and printmaker based in St. Louis, Missouri. He received a B.F.A. in printmaking from the Kansas City Art Institute and an M.F.A. from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. His work has been featured across the country at The Leedy Voulkos Art Center, Sager Braudis Gallery and The Ewing Gallery. Internationally, his work has been exhibited at the China Printmaking Museum in Guan Lan and published in *Frontera*, a bilingual arts magazine based in Madrid, Spain. He is currently a resident artist at Grafik House, a fine art print shop in Downtown St. Louis.

The not-for-profit Sheldon Art Galleries exhibits works by local, national and international artists in all media. Over 6,000 square feet of the galleries' spaces on the 2nd floor are permanently devoted to rotating exhibits of photography, architecture, music art and history, and children's art. A sculpture garden, seen from both the atrium lobby and the connecting glass bridge, features periodic rotations and installations, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery on the lower level features art of all media. The Sheldon actively supports the work of St. Louis artists in all mediums and features a dedicated gallery with museum-quality exhibits by St. Louis artists, past and present.

Financial Assistance to the Galleries are provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency and by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

For more information about the Galleries call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit TheSheldon.org.

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Image caption: Emmett Merrrill, Hell, 2021, lithograph, 22 x 15 inches. Courtesy of the Artist.