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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## THE SHELDON ART GALLERIES ANNOUNCES WINTER/SPRING 2017 SCHEDULE

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Sheldon Art Galleries announces the Winter/Spring 2017 exhibition schedule, with an opening reception on **Friday, March 3 from 5 - 7 p.m.** Galleries open until 9 p.m. for First Fridays in Grand Center. Gallery hours are Tuesdays, Noon – 8 p.m.; Wednesdays – Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information on exhibitions, visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org). More information about each individual exhibit available upon request.

### ***Higher Ground: Honoring Washington Park Cemetery, Its People and Place*** **March 3 – August 26, 2017**

*Bernoudy Gallery of Architecture and Gallery of Photography*

This multi-media exhibition, conceived by photographer Jennifer Colten, includes 50 large scale, color landscape photographs by Colten, as well as video and oral histories by Denise Ward-Brown, historical land documentation, historical narrative panels and an art installation by Dail Chambers, which together provide an overview of the history and issues surrounding this historically African-American cemetery. Washington Park Cemetery, located near Lambert-St. Louis International Airport was established in 1920 as a burial ground for African-Americans at a time when rigid segregation was common practice. For nearly 70 years, it was the largest black cemetery in the region, and the final resting place for many prominent African-Americans, including Oscar Minor Waring, the first African-American principal of Sumner High School and Dr. Miles Davis, Sr., father of the great trumpeter. In the 1950s, the cemetery was split and parts paved over by Interstate 70, and again in the 1970s and 1990s disruption and erasure occurred; bodies were disinterred and moved when parts of this land was appropriated by Lambert Airport and Metrolink. This exhibition tells the story of the cemetery's long and tragic history and reveals the complicated tangle of social injustice, racial politics and neglect that it has suffered. A fully-illustrated exhibition catalogue and a dedicated resource webpage hosted by Washington University Olin Library, Special Collections accompanies the exhibition. ***The exhibition is made possible by a grant from the Missouri Humanities Council with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a Ferguson Academic Seed Fund Grant from Washington University in St. Louis, Karen and Lawrence Kotner, Barbara and Arthur McDonnell, Officer Funeral Home P.C. and James and Brenda Rivers. In-kind support is provided by Special Collections, Olin Library, Washington University in St. Louis and the Missouri History Museum.***

**Complementary Programs:** (More programs in conjunction with this exhibit will be listed at [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org))

**Gallery Talk: Friday, April 7, 2017, 6 – 7:30 p.m.,** featuring project artists Denise Ward-Brown, Jennifer Colten and Dail Chambers. Admission free, but reservations are required. Contact Paula Lincoln at [plincolin@thesheldon.org](mailto:plincolin@thesheldon.org) or 314-533-9900.

**Panel Discussion at Missouri History Museum: Wednesday, May 24, 2017, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

### ***Higher Ground: Honoring the Story of Washington Park Cemetery***

Moderated by Gwen Moore, Missouri Historical Society Curator of Urban Landscape and Community Identity, and featuring *Higher Ground* project artists Jennifer Colten, Denise Ward-Brown and Dail Chambers; catalogue essayist Michael R. Allen, Director of the Preservation Research Office and Senior Lecturer, Department of Architecture, Sam Fox School of Design and Art; and others, the panelists will illuminate the history of Washington Park Cemetery and discuss the process of honoring its history in an exhibit. Missouri History Museum's Des Lee Auditorium, admission free. Information at [mohistory.org](http://mohistory.org) or 314-746-4599.

MORE...

***Color Wheel Connections: Handmade Books about Human Beings***

**March 3 – September 9, 2017**

*AT&T Gallery of Children's Art*

Organized by artist Jenna Bauer, founder of the Colorbridge Arts Collective, designers of socially informed visual arts education curricula, this exhibit uses the artist's color wheel as a metaphor to encourage children to contemplate our similarities and differences as human beings. In collaboration with their classroom teachers and Colorbridge art educators, students created thought-provoking stories based on this theme, and also learned a wide variety of studio art-based illustration tactics including drawing and collage techniques, color theory and bookbinding. This exhibit presents over 50 books written and illustrated by students from Word of Life School, St. Cecilia School, Kennard Classical Junior Academy and a group of homeschooled children.

**Student and teacher workshops available:** Call Rebecca Gunter at 314-533-9900 x18 for information.

***Circus Harmony: Defying Gravity and Other Limitations***

**March 3 – September 23, 2017**

*Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery*

This exhibit presents a group of dynamic photographs by Ron Anderson, Jessica Hentoff, Susan Pittman and others that celebrate the work of St. Louis's own social circus, Circus Harmony. The photographs, which include a 23-foot frieze of portraits of circus members by Anderson and Pittman, cover their work both at home and abroad. The non-profit Circus Harmony uses circus arts to motivate social change by inspiring individuals and connecting communities with their circus education and entertainment programs. ***The exhibition is made possible in part by Nina Needleman.***

**Performance: Friday, March 3, 2017, 6 p.m.,** members of Circus Harmony will present a short performance at the opening reception, Kemper Atrium.

**ONGOING EXHIBITS:**

***Amazing Horns – Bridging Continents, Bridging Time***

**On view through August 12, 2017**

*Gallery of Music*

Curated by Dr. Aurelia Hartenberger and drawn from The Sheldon's Hartenberger World Music Collection, this exhibition explores the evolutionary process and development of horns across continents and through time. Highlights include a 1,000-year old Moche clay trumpet from Peru, a ceremonial Narsiga from Nepal, a bronze side-blown trumpet from 16<sup>th</sup>-century Benin, a Buccin from the French Revolution, a rare American Civil War Schreiber over-the-shoulder teardrop horn and a rare 8-foot tall Recording Bass. Contemporary horns played by famous jazz musicians Clark Terry, Oliver Lake and Artie Shaw, and a fantastical 12-foot long bicycle-powered "Pedalphone" designed by St. Louisan John E. Maier, are also featured.

***The exhibition is made possible by Novus International.***

***Wallace Smith: Paintings, Drawings and Sketches***

**On view through May 13, 2017**

*Bellwether Gallery of St. Louis Artists*

Born in St. Louis in 1901, Wallace Herndon Smith was a traditional painter who absorbed the visual language of artists like Pierre Bonnard, Henri Matisse and Edward Hopper. Smith was fluent in many subjects including still-lives, landscapes, interiors and portraits. In the late 1930s, his work gained attention from important American artists like Edward Hopper, Walt Kuhn and Peggy Bacon. During these early years, his work was characterized by its affinity to American Regionalism and his portraits were highly finished, quiet examinations of his subjects. He traveled extensively to Europe, Mexico and America's East Coast, and had a summer residence and studio in Harbor Springs, Michigan, subjects which are found in several works in the exhibit. Smith studied at Princeton University and the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris. The exhibition is organized by the Sheldon Art Galleries and is drawn from the collection of the Bellwether Foundation.