

Comprehensive Exhibition Calendar

Julia Jacquette: Unrequited and Acts of Play

February 18 – July 2, 2017

Curated by Tracy L. Adler, Johnson-Pote Director, Wellin Museum of Art

Traveling to the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Summit, NJ

September 24, 2017 – January 14, 2018

Comprising paintings, site-specific murals, and a series of gouache drawings, *Unrequited and Acts of Play* marks Julia Jacquette's first major museum retrospective. Exposing our seemingly insatiable longing for the ideal, the work of the artist, who is based in New York and Amsterdam, focuses on commercialized objects of desire: images of food from cookbooks from the 1950s and 1960s, ornate interiors of the wealthy, and liquors from glossy magazine ad campaigns, among other subjects. These material trappings are presented, often close up, in crisply detailed paintings that both profess and resent such desires and the complications they present personally, socially, and culturally.



Julia Jacquette. *Scotch, Rocks I*, 2008. Oil on linen, 77 x 100 in.
Courtesy of the artist, New York.

Exploring related themes is a parallel project, *Playground of My Mind*. In this graphic memoir, begun in 2010, Jacquette turns her attention to the “adventure playgrounds” built in New York City and Amsterdam during the 1970s. These structures encouraged constructive, imaginative play and gave renewed life to utopian notions of American and European modernist architecture. A personal commentary on the design principles Jacquette grew up with (her father co-designed one of these playgrounds for Central Park) and on their influence on her aesthetic and thinking, the project exists as a series of original gouache drawings that will be on view at the Wellin. This project comprises over sixty works will be co-published as an illustrated artist book by the Wellin Museum and DelMonico Books/Prestel. The Wellin will also publish a monograph, the first major publication on the subject of the Jacquette's work.

A section of the Wellin Museum's Dietrich Exhibition Gallery will be reserved for student- and community-organized play-oriented projects that reflect ideas put forth by the book. Megan C. Austin, Associate Director at the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art, will curate the exhibition's PlayScape.

Innovative Approaches, Honored Traditions:

Collection Exhibition Celebrating the Five-Year Anniversary of the Wellin Museum of Art

September 9 – December 10, 2017

Curated by Katherine Alcauskas, Collections & Exhibitions Specialist

Celebrating the five-year anniversary of the opening of the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College, this exhibition showcases selections from the permanent collection, highlighting works acquired since the museum's founding in 2012. The objects included span many eras and cultures and represent a range of mediums. A rich educational resource, the Wellin's collection is being carefully shaped to mirror the diverse academic disciplines at Hamilton College and to serve as a vital cross-curricular teaching tool.



Sebastião Salgado. *Burhan, Kuwait*, 1991. Gelatin silver print on baryta paper, 13 ½ x 19 ¼ in. Collection of the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College. Purchase, William G. Roehrick '34 Art Acquisition and Preservation Fund

This Place

February – June 2018

Organized by Frédéric Brenner, Matthew Brogan, and Charlotte Cotton; presented at the Wellin Museum of Art in collaboration with the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College, the Picker Art Gallery at Colgate University, and the University Art Museum at the University at Albany



Stephen Shore. *Hebron*, 2011. Chromogenic color print, 36 x 45 in. Courtesy of the artist and 303 Gallery, New York.

Through the eyes of twelve internationally acclaimed photographers, *This Place* explores Israel and the West Bank as both place and metaphor. The highly individualized works in this exhibition combine to create not a single, monolithic vision but rather a diverse and fragmented portrait, alive to all the rifts and paradoxes of this important and much-contested space. The project follows in the tradition of those such as the nineteenth-century Mission Héliographique in France and the Depression-era Farm Security Administration in the United States, both of which gathered photographers to ask essential questions about culture, society, and the inner lives of individuals.

Exploring the curricular and academic tie-ins that can be created through synergistic collaboration, *This Place* will be presented concurrently in four parts at the Wellin Museum of Art, the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College, the Picker Gallery at Colgate University, and the University Art Museum at the University at Albany as part of a Teagle Grant focusing on pedagogical collaborations in higher education. Robert Knight, Associate Professor of Art, is the Hamilton College faculty liaison for the Teagle Grant initiative.

Margarita Cabrera: Space in Between

February 10 - June 10, 2018

Space in Between is a collaboration between artist Margarita Cabrera, the Arizona State University Art Museum and Desert Botanical Garden. Cabrera's project is a continuation of her on-going work with Latino communities. The project centers on the creation of artworks and promotion of cultural dialogues revolving around themes related to community, craft, immigration, cultural identity, labor practices and sustainability. Cabrera lead workshops with communities from the Arizona region to create soft sculptures of desert plants made from recycled Border Patrol uniforms and embroidered with personal stories of immigration.



Margarita Cabrera was born in Monterrey, Mexico, and grew up in Mexico City, Salt Lake City and El Paso, Texas. She received an MFA in Combined Media from Hunter College, CUNY. In 2012, she was a recipient of the Knight Artist in Residence at the McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte, North Carolina. Cabrera was also a recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant and the ArtPace Residency. She is an Assistant Professor of Art at Arizona State University in Tempe.



Jeffrey Gibson. *A Very Easy Death*, 2015. Found canvas punching bag, repurposed wool army blanket, glass beads, plastic beads, steel studs, artificial sinew, nylon fringe, tin cones, and steel chain, 57 1/2 x 14 x 14 in. Collection of the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College. Purchase, William G. Roehrick '34 Art Acquisition and Preservation Fund

Jeffrey Gibson: This is the Day

September – December 2018

Curated by Tracy L. Adler, Johnson-Pote Director, Wellin Museum of Art

Drawing from his half-Choctaw, half-Cherokee heritage, Jeffrey Gibson embraces traditions of Native American art and culture in his colorfully beaded sculptures and intricately patterned paintings. Wool blankets, rawhide, punching bags, and other objects are used as substrates for beadwork that often incorporates text drawn from a variety of sources, including literature and popular culture along with the artist's own writings. In a unique exhibition planned specifically for the Wellin Museum, Gibson will explore the cultural complexities around the Native American powwow and the associations among costume, ritual, and performance.

“Many past histories,” Gibson stated, “have been disregarded because they seem irrelevant to our contemporary times, but I find that the social issues that people have dealt with for centuries have not completely changed.” By drawing out embedded cultural histories of race and gender, Gibson’s work inspires pedagogical discourse across disciplines and cultures.

Ongoing

Permanent Collection Highlights: Art and Artifacts

Archive Hall and Object Study Gallery

The Wellin Museum's open storage evokes a modern-day cabinet of curiosities, with objects representing a wide range of mediums, time periods, and disciplines of study. The floor-to-ceiling glass cases in the museum's Archive Hall feature highlights from the teaching collection as well as works on loan. Among the objects on view are Greek and Roman antiquities, art of the ancient Americas, and Native American pottery and rattles. Also on view, in Archive Hall East, is *Seek & Find*, an installation featuring a selection of works from the permanent collection. Rather than being organized by culture or period, these objects are arranged thematically or according to their visual affinities. Visitors are invited to utilize their own analytic skills to discern relationships between the works on view. Each object shares something with the object to its right and possesses a different relationship with the object on its left. Encouraging an active engagement with the exhibited works, *Seek & Find* allows visitors to discover new and hidden meanings.



About the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art

The Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art joins object-based learning with advances in interdisciplinary approaches. With its visible archive and open storage, the museum allows for unprecedented access to a collection of art and artifacts that span millennia and cultures. The Wellin's state-of-the-art facility offers classroom space, a study center to facilitate access to and research of the collection, and a versatile exhibition space. The museum encourages observation, exploration, and engagement through its presentation of exhibitions on the cutting edge of art, art scholarship, and research in a range of disciplines.

###

For media inquiries, please contact:

Vige Barrie

Senior Director of Media Relations

Hamilton College

vbarrie@hamilton.edu

315-859-4623

Michelle Reynolds

Curatorial and Programming Coordinator

Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College

mkreynold@hamilton.edu

315-859-4787