



LAKE EUSTIS MUSEUM OF ART

1 West Orange Avenue | Eustis FL 32726 | 352.483.2900 | lakeeustisartmuseum.org

For Immediate Release

Contact: Richard D. Colvin, Director at 352.483.2900 or 352.308.8176

HE SHE WE The Exhibition

Doug Hays, Sculptor and Brenda Heim, Abstract Expressionist

Featuring both independent works of sculpture and paint, and the melding of different skill sets for collaborating on community projects - the results: HE SHE WE

March 8-April 28, 2013

Eustis FL - Doug Hays, Sculptor and Brenda Heim, Abstract Expressionist will exhibit works of sculpture and paint with collaborative pieces at the Lake Eustis Museum of Art (LEMA_ from March 8 - April 28, 2013. An opening reception will be held Friday, March 8 from 6-8pm. Museum hours are Tuesday-Friday 10 am-4 pm and noon-4 pm on Saturday. HE SHE WE is sponsored in part by Quammen Health Care Consultants and First Green Bank. PHOTOS are available upon request.

HE SHE WE...a visual story of two artists, their unique "HE SHE" partnership, and how—beyond studio and museum walls—they integrate patrons and supporters into "WE" community projects and public art commissions. Giving special focus to collaborative endeavors, an exhibition highlight of these works demonstrates the varied and symbiotic partnerships between the artist's studios and community projects.

We believe the patron and artist relationship is valuable without question and is essential for well-rounded cultural communities." —**B. Heim**

LEMA Director Richard D. Colvin states "Irish playwright J. M. Synge wrote, "All art is collaboration." What...has each artist learned from the other? What is shared? What differs? The Lake Eustis Museum of Art is proud to display this dynamic and challenging exhibition. Both artists have impressive reputations on a national scale, and a broad cross-section of public and private patronage. It is a pure pleasure to display their talent, technique and industry."

With the interplay between two very strong and independent artists, someone has to compromise—that's the magic of collaborating. However, embracing this magic can bring a unique element of tension and passion to the work.

We don't rely on harmony to create collaborative pieces. With the circle sculpture *Enso 1*, an enormous amount of tension between the design and building process ultimately exceeded our expectations and delivered *en pointe*.—**Doug Hays**

HE SHE WE has emerged from Heim's desire to create an exhibit that offers more than her work as a solo artist. A 2-person exhibition with Hays is a natural fit to showcase collaboration projects from more than seven years of working together alongside blending the aesthetics of her no-mind Zen approach with his intensely methodical design work—to produce a powerful artistic expression where interests and art intersect and influence each other. Hays has further enhanced the vision with "WE" concepts such as: creative investment partnerships with corporations; SCE (Sculpture Commission Education), where high school/college interns learn the process of site-specific work from concept to installation; Couples Exhibition: exploring the diverse mediums of artist couples.

One of the "WE" projects on display is the sculpture, *Inspiration*. It was created after four months of interaction with the Eustis Elementary 4th grade art class. A series of field trips and classroom dialogues were presented in tandem with Mrs. Garcia's curriculum about Art in Public Places.

While building the students understanding of the process and the complexities of being a professional artist, connections were made as to how math and science are an integral part of the arts and how various careers are employed to create such art works (illustrator/graphics, engineer, admin support, photo/documentation, city commission/zoning, public relations/media, economic development, patrons/donors, fundraising and philanthropy). The lessons were also designed to promote high order critical thinking and problem solving skills. Bringing this experience out of the classroom, into the real world with actual artists, gave the students a greater understanding of a viable artist's career." —Mrs. Garcia.

Student interactions with Hays & Heim helped formulate the design for the *Inspiration* sculpture. Simultaneously, the students participated in classroom lessons in which they are currently applying what they learned about Art in Public Places as they construct and install their own sculptures on campus. The students plan to introduce their sculptures to the artists and present how their own creative process developed from concept to installation. The final lesson will be about philanthropy, as the students join Hays & Heim in the presentation of *Inspiration* and the donation of the sculpture to a public domain entity. This event takes place on April 5, at the Lake Eustis Museum of Art during 1st Friday Street Fest in Downtown Eustis. The *Inspiration* sculpture is sponsored by First Green Bank.

On March 9, the exhibition will be utilized for noted art historian and museum professional, Dr. Arthur Blumenthal, as he conducts his popular workshop ***How To Look At Art!*** - a fun, transformational, and interactive workshop that has been offered at major North American museums. After decades of watching viewers struggle with art, Dr. Blumenthal developed a participatory course that embraces "Slow Looking," meticulous description, humor, and insightful thinking using the participant's own visual powers. Michael Kimmelman of The New York Times states: "Slow looking, like slow cooking, may yet become the new radical chic." The lecture/workshop is from 10am-4pm and the cost is \$45 or \$40 for LEMA members. Refreshments are included. Seating is limited to 25, please call 352.483.2900 or email lake.eustis.art.museum@gmail.com to register.

Doug Hays, metal sculptor | blacksmith: features a new series of equine sculptures and large-scale (exterior) abstract sculptures. His work is best known for metal bird

sculptures, created site-specific for public spaces. Hays says, "I have always been intrigued by anything transformed by fire; fire is what drew me to working metal. I enjoy combining ancient and modern techniques to the challenge of bringing life to steel, imparting a feeling of motion and expression to an unyielding and heavy material. Whether creating sculpture for private, corporate or public clients, I enjoy the process from conception to installation." *Collections and commissions include: First Green Bank, South Lake Hospital, The Hofmeister Group, City of Mount Dora, City of Eustis, Westin Diplomat and the Shenandoah Gypsy Vanner Horse Farm - FL. Exhibitions include Millennia Fine Art Gallery, Florida Museum of Art, Riverwalk Gallery of Sculpture - FL and Reality Room Gallery, Washington, DC.*

Brenda Heim, abstract expressionist/painting & sculpture: features abstract calligraphic paintings from 12ft to 3 inches and a new series of her circle brush mark "Enso" in metal sculpture form. Her work is best known for her skill of painting abstract letterforms in an immediate, bold manner. "My primary studio work is action painting. I'm influenced by calligraphy, the no-mind Zen brush painting method, psychotherapy and emotional release techniques. Blending these modalities fuels my technique of gestural painting. My sculpture work is contrary as design principles guide the creation process. In addition to solo projects, I enjoy the creative pulse of collaborating on public art projects and restorative environments." *Collections and commissions include: Quammen Health Care Consultants -TN & FL, Fiserv CBS Worldwide Headquarters, Coopers & Lybrand, South Lake Hospital, Adrenaline Films - FL and NOBU - LasVegas. Exhibitions include: Naples Museum of Art/FL Contemporary, Orlando Museum of Art/Thursday Series, Red Trombone Gallery - FL and Tensho Gallery, Vancouver BC.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Lake Eustis Museum of Art | Richard D. Colvin, Director 352-483-2900 | www.lakeeustisartmuseum.org. To learn more about HE SHE WE and the artists visit online: www.HeSheWeArt.com

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LEMA is located at the base of Orange Avenue in downtown Eustis in Ferran Park, right on Lake Eustis. There is plenty of parking. The address is 1 West Orange Ave, Eustis FL 32726. For information please call 352.483.2900 or 352.308.8176. The museum is open Tues-Friday 10am-4pm and Sat 12noon-4pm, and Sundays by appointment.