



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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North Carolina Museum of Art Presents *Line, Touch, Trace*

Exhibition highlights North Carolina artists who create hand-drawn works in a variety of graphic mediums

Raleigh, N.C.—Beginning Saturday, August 30, 2014, the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) presents *Line, Touch, Trace*, an exhibition of 30 hand-drawn works. Organized by Greenhill in Greensboro, N.C., the exhibition highlights 13 North Carolina artists who use graphite, ballpoint pen, conté crayon, ink, or charcoal to explore drawing in its relationship to thought processes.



In *Line, Touch, Trace*, artists may work with *line* to precisely render contours or as calligraphy on the drawing's surface; apply *touch* to build tonal values or erase edges; and use *traced* marks to suggest elements of an imagined topography. The artists use these techniques in works to communicate mental states, project invented worlds, or portray moments of contemplation.

"We are thrilled to work with Greenhill—a fantastic North Carolina art institution—to feature local artists in *Line, Touch, Trace*," says Jennifer Dasal, associate curator for contemporary art at the NCMA. "The range of approaches presented in the exhibition attests to the effervescence of drawing and its contribution to contemporary art. We're excited to feature a show dedicated to this medium—the first drawing show we've presented in our North Carolina gallery."

The exhibition includes works by Selena Beaudry, Tamie Beldue, Lori Esposito, Kiki Farish, John Gall, John Hill Jr., Fritz Janschka, Kenn Kotara, Kreh Mellick, Matthew Micca, Ippy Patterson, Isaac Payne, and Jason Watson.

This exhibition is presented in conjunction with *Following Threads: Fiber Art and Drawing*, on view at Greenhill from September 19 through November 9, 2014. *Following Threads* highlights four artists—Harriet Hoover, Becky Joye, Leigh Suggs, and Jason Watson—who investigate the drawn and stitched line in figurative and abstract works that stretch the definitions of drawing.

"The artists selected for both of these exhibitions have practiced in North Carolina for a significant part of their careers and present an array of approaches to graphic art," says Edie Carpenter, director of curatorial and artistic programs at Greenhill. "Whether they employ figuration or abstraction, these artists produce handmade studio drawings that are not conceived of as studies but as fully realized works. *Following Threads* and *Line, Touch, Trace* offer a wonderful overview of the evolving technical and artistic exploration of drawing by contemporary artists."

Line, Touch, Trace

August 30–March 8, 2014
East Building, Level A, North Carolina Gallery
Free

Related Event

Meet the Artists in *Line, Touch, Trace*
Friday, September 5, 6 pm
North Carolina Gallery, East Building
Free

(continued)

Meet and mingle with the North Carolina artists whose work is part of the exhibition *Line, Touch, Trace*. Artists will be available to answer questions and chat until 7 pm; then the conversation continues in the West Building wine bar. Sponsored by the NCMA's Artist Link Team.

About the Exhibition

Organized by Greenhill in collaboration with the North Carolina Museum of Art. Support provided by the George Smedes Poyner Family Foundation. This exhibition is also made possible, in part, by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources; the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation, Inc.; and the William R. Kenan Jr. Endowment for Educational Exhibitions.

Photo caption:

Isaac Payne, *Billboard*, 2013, charcoal, ink, conté crayon, transparent gesso, and oil paint on combined papers, 58 x 82 1/2 in., Courtesy of the artist, © 2013 Isaac Payne

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About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum opened West Building, home to the permanent collection, in 2010. The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Pat McCrory, governor, and an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, Susan Kluttz, secretary.