

North Carolina Museum of Art Presents Three Free Exhibitions Opening in September 2015

Exhibitions feature contemporary sculpture, photographs of children, and video installations

Raleigh, N.C.—The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) presents three free exhibitions opening in September 2015: *Chisel and Forge: Works by Peter Oakley and Elizabeth Brim*, featuring playful sculptures by two contemporary North Carolina artists; *The Energy of Youth: Depicting Childhood in the NCMA's Photography Collection*, highlighting photographs of children from the NCMA's permanent collection; and a series of gravity-defying video installations by South African artist Robin Rhode.



Chisel and Forge: Works by Peter Oakley and Elizabeth Brim
September 12, 2015–March 20, 2016

Chisel and Forge presents two North Carolina artists whose sculptures provide a fresh and humorous look at everyday objects.

Peter Oakley skillfully re-creates impermanent items—bars of soap, Styrofoam containers, egg cartons—out of marble, transforming the otherwise ordinary into beautiful and permanent objects.

Elizabeth Brim, a prominent blacksmith, uses metalwork—traditionally considered a “man’s medium”—to make a sly commentary on the gendering of materials. Her forged steel pieces represent soft and stereotypically feminine objects: frilly pillows, high-heeled shoes, tutus, and aprons. Together, these artists jovially chisel away at the assumptions plaguing their chosen materials, forging new thoughts about objects and those who create them.

The Energy of Youth: Depicting Childhood in the NCMA's Photography Collection
September 26, 2015–April 3, 2016

The Energy of Youth: Depicting Childhood in the NCMA's Photography Collection highlights some of the most engaging photographs of children and adolescents from the NCMA's permanent collection. This collection of images demonstrates that there is no universal experience of childhood, and instead challenges viewers to consider the unique experience of each child. The exhibition celebrates the sensitivity brought to moments of innocence, reflection, play, and transition.

Artists in this exhibition include Bill Bamberger, Luis Rey Velasco, Sally Mann, David Spear, Barbara Morgan, Margaret Sartor, Ralph Eugene Meatyard, Linda Foard Roberts, Erwin Olaf, and Titus Brooks Heagins.



Robin Rhode Video Installations
September 26, 2015–January 31, 2016

Artist Robin Rhode creates fantastic and playful digital animations that often have a darker undercurrent. “As a South African,” Rhode says, “I feel obligated to create my own history by working with certain everyday materials that embody a sociopolitical narrative ... This is my motivating force: I have to tell these stories ... My voice will be heard.

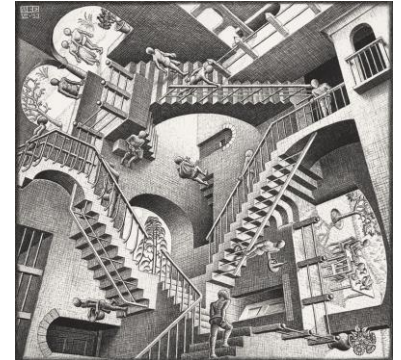


You can take away everything—I'm still going to make art. I'm not dependent on the economy, on the material, on the ideas. I've made art with chalk and on concrete walls, and I'm still going to do it."

In Rhode's gravity-defying videos—staged in locations that include city streets, his studio, and his family's backyard—actors interact with chalk and charcoal drawings of everyday objects (chairs, pianos, bicycles, basketballs, skateboards) as if they were real. His dynamic narratives set up a dialogue between high art and popular culture, incorporating references to graffiti, art history, and recent political and social events.

M. C. Escher Retrospective and a Rare Manuscript by Leonardo da Vinci

The NCMA also presents two ticketed exhibitions opening in October 2015: [*The Worlds of M. C. Escher: Nature, Science, and Imagination*](#) and [*Leonardo da Vinci's Codex Leicester and the Creative Mind*](#). *The Worlds of M. C. Escher* features approximately 125 drawings, woodcuts, lithographs, and watercolors spanning Escher's entire career; it is the most comprehensive Escher exhibition ever presented in the United States. The *Codex Leicester*—the only notebook by Leonardo da Vinci in North America—offers insights into Leonardo's keen powers of observation, extraordinary intellect, and innovative creative process. Joint tickets to the exhibitions go on sale to Museum members on August 20 and to the general public on September 15.



About the Exhibitions

Chisel and Forge is organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art. Support provided by the George Smedes Poyner Family Foundation. This exhibition is 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. Research for this exhibition was made possible by Ann and Jim Goodnight/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fund for Curatorial and Conservation Research and Travel.

The Energy of Youth is organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art. This exhibition is 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. Research for this exhibition was made possible by Ann and Jim Goodnight/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fund for Curatorial and Conservation Research and Travel.

The Robin Rhode video installations are organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art. This exhibition is 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. Research for this exhibition was made possible by Ann and Jim Goodnight/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fund for Curatorial and Conservation Research and Travel.

- The Main Hall Video Gallery projects are made possible by PNC Bank.

The Worlds of M. C. Escher is organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art.

- Presenting Sponsor: Duke Energy
- Participating Sponsors: Quintiles and Lord Corporation

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The *Codex Leicester* is on loan from Bill Gates. In Raleigh generous support is provided by the Ron and Jeanette Doggett Fund. 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. Research for this exhibition was made possible by Ann and Jim Goodnight/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fund for Curatorial and Conservation Research and Travel.

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- Participating Sponsors: celinto.net and Quintiles

Image Captions (top to bottom)

Elizabeth Brim, *Tutu*, 1998, forged and fabricated steel, H. 36 x W. 24 x D. 12 in., Anonymous loan, © 1998 Elizabeth Brim

Barbara Morgan, *Children Dancing by Lake, Camp Treetops*, 1940, printed 1970s, gelatin-silver print, 13 3/8 x 18 in., North Carolina Museum of Art, Gift of Richard and Lois Zakia, © 2015 Barbara Morgan, Barbara Morgan Archive

Robin Rhode, *Piano Chair* (still frame), 2011, digital animation, dimensions variable, 3:50 min., edition of 5, Courtesy of the artist and Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York and Hong Kong, © 2015 Robin Rhode

M. C. Escher, *Relativity*, 1953, lithograph, 10 7/8 x 11 1/2 in., Private collection, Texas, © 2015 The M. C. Escher Company, The Netherlands. All rights reserved. www.mcescher.com

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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.