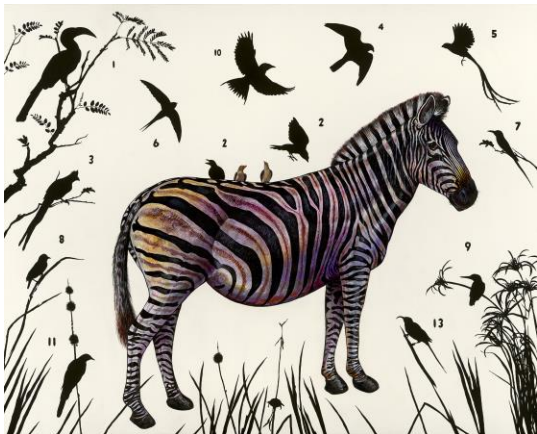


North Carolina Museum of Art Announces Spring 2015 Exhibition Schedule

Raleigh, N.C.—The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) announces four exhibitions opening in spring 2015. *Field Guide: James Prosek’s Un/Natural World* features paintings, drawings, and sculptures of wildlife by James Prosek that offer commentary on environmental issues. *The Patton Collection: A Gift to North Carolina* highlights modern and contemporary works from a recent gift to the NCMA from the private collection of Jim and Mary Patton. *Director’s Cut: Recent Photography Gifts to the NCMA* features a selection of photographs from gifts to the Museum in honor of Lawrence J. Wheeler’s 20th anniversary as director of the NCMA. Finally, *Zoosphere* is a multichannel video installation imagining encounters with various animals in unexpected ways.

***Field Guide: James Prosek’s Un/Natural World*
March 7–August 2, 2015**



Often described as a contemporary Audubon, James Prosek (American, born 1975, lives and works in Easton, Connecticut) interprets and depicts the natural world through the lens of his personal experiences. Self-taught artist, natural historian, writer, world traveler, and adventurer, Prosek has observed wildlife in a diverse variety of habitats, including Turkey, Micronesia, Zimbabwe, the Bahamas, the Eastern Seaboard, and the American West.

His art explores the human need to classify and categorize nature as a way to understand it. At once startlingly realistic and skillfully manipulated, his meticulous renderings of birds, fish, and mammals move beyond illustration into artistically interpreted portraits that capture the essence and personalities of his subjects and often provide provocative commentary on current environmental issues.

***The Patton Collection: A Gift to North Carolina*
March 28–August 23, 2015**

This exhibition features an exceptional gift to the North Carolina Museum of Art from the private collection of Jim and Mary Patton. Amassed over a lifetime, the Pattons’ collection includes seminal works by masters of mid- to late-20th-century art: Milton Avery, Richard Diebenkorn, Jackie Ferrara, Helen Frankenthaler, Adolph Gottlieb, Hans Hofmann, Ellsworth Kelly, Robert Motherwell, David Park, George Rickey, Sean Scully, Frank Stella, and many others. This transformative gift significantly expands the breadth and scope of the Museum’s permanent collection, both augmenting works by artists currently in the collection and adding works by artists previously not represented, enabling the Museum to present a comprehensive picture of the significant trends and movements in modern and contemporary art.



The Pattons have had long-standing ties to North Carolina. Jim Patton was born and raised in Durham and graduated with honors from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Mary Patton (1929–2014) grew up in Durham and attended the Woman’s College (now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro). The Pattons’ passion for art started with Mary Patton’s lifelong interest in painting, as an accomplished artist in her own right. Their enthusiasm for collecting was founded in a strong desire to work with artists and a deep commitment to stewardship.

Director's Cut: Recent Photography Gifts to the NCMA
April 4–September 13, 2015



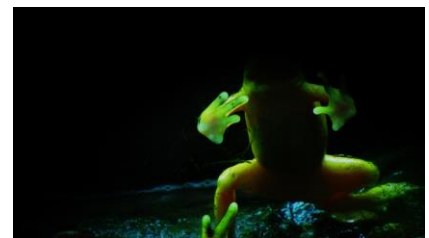
Director's Cut features a selection of photographs from recent gifts to the Museum in honor of Lawrence J. Wheeler's 20th anniversary as director of the North Carolina Museum of Art. These gifts are a significant addition to the Museum's photography collection and feature iconic images by many ground-breaking photographers of the 20th century, along with innovative works by contemporary photographers.

Ranging in date from 1967 to 2013, the photographs depict a wide variety of subject matter, including Elvis conventions, minor league baseball, self-portraits, the southern landscape, and views of Cuba and New York. The photographers in the exhibition—including Uta Barth, William Christenberry, Alex Harris, Frank Hunter, Bill Jacobson, Simen Johan, Andrew Moore, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, and Kerry Skarbakka—explore an array of photographic techniques and approaches, including traditional gelatin-silver prints, digital prints, Polaroids, and straight photography as well as overtly manipulated and constructed images.

The works on view provide an introduction to the diversity of contemporary photography and highlight Wheeler's championing of contemporary photography at the Museum. When he arrived at the NCMA in 1994, there were 22 photographs in the Museum's permanent collection; today there are over 400.

Zoosphere
April 25–September 13, 2015

Allison Hunter, whose works frequently tackle humans' effect on the environment and the effects we have on other living creatures, brings these concepts to the forefront in her multichannel video installation *Zoosphere*. Here she imagines up-close-and-personal encounters with frogs, koi fish, meerkats, komodo dragons, and snakes in unexpected and curious ways. Separated from their traditional habitats and from manmade enclosures such as zoo exhibits, these creatures may be discovered in a new, unpredictable manner.



Fall 2015 Exhibitions: Rare Manuscript by Leonardo da Vinci and an M. C. Escher Retrospective

The NCMA also presents two exhibitions opening in October 2015: [*Leonardo da Vinci's Codex Leicester and the Power of Observation*](#) and [*The Worlds of M. C. Escher: Nature, Science, and Imagination*](#). 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. *The Worlds of M. C. Escher* will feature more than 125 drawings, woodcuts, wood engravings, lithographs, mezzotints, and watercolors spanning Escher's entire career.

Field Guide: James Prosek's Un/Natural World

March 7–August 2, 2015
East Building, B Level, Studio 3
Free

The Patton Collection: A Gift to North Carolina

March 28–August 23, 2015
East Building, Level A, North Carolina Gallery, Atrium
Free

Director's Cut: Recent Photography Gifts to the NCMA

April 4–September 13, 2015
East Building, Level A, Photography Galleries
Free

Zoosphere

April 25–September 13, 2015
East Building
Free

The Worlds of M. C. Escher: Nature, Science, and Imagination

October 17, 2015–January 17, 2016
East Building, Level B, Meymandi Exhibition Gallery

Ticket prices (joint ticket with *Leonardo da Vinci's Codex Leicester and the Power of Observation*):

\$18 Adults

\$15 Seniors, military, groups of 10+, college students with current ID

\$12 Youth 7–18

Free for Museum members, children 6 and under

Leonardo da Vinci's Codex Leicester and the Power of Observation

October 31, 2015–January 17, 2016

East Building, Level B, Gallery 2

See above for price of joint ticket with *The Worlds of M. C. Escher*.

About the Exhibitions

Field Guide: James Prosek's Un/Natural World is organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art. This exhibition is supported by the Duke Energy Education Endowment 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.

The Patton Collection: A Gift to North Carolina 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.

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Zoosphere 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.

- Presenting Sponsor: PNC Bank

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

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

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.

The *Codex Leicester* is on loan from Bill Gates. 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.

- Supporting Sponsor: celito.net

Photo captions (from top):

From *Field Guide: James Prosek, Zebra (Zimbabwe)*, 2014, oil, acrylic, and mixed media on panel, 45 x 56 in., Courtesy of the artist and Schwartz Wajahat, New York, © 2014 James Prosek

From *The Patton Collection: Richard Diebenkorn, Untitled*, 1949, oil on canvas, 48 x 41 in., Gift of Mary and Jim Patton, © 2014 The Richard Diebenkorn Foundation

From *Director's Cut: Simen Johan, Untitled #172*, 2013, chromogenic print, 67 x 57 in., North Carolina Museum of Art, Promised gift of Libby and Lee Buck in honor of Lawrence J. Wheeler, © 2013 Simen Johan

From *Zoosphere: Allison Hunter, video still from Untitled (frog)*, 2010, 2-min. color video with sound, 1 of 8 videos in *Zoosphere*, © 2010 Allison Hunter

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.