

# ZANESVILLE MUSEUM of ART

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Zanesville Museum of Art Opening Ohio Annual Exhibition**

ZANESVILLE, Ohio– The Zanesville Museum of Art is opening the prestigious 77<sup>th</sup> Ohio Annual Exhibition. This juried exhibition, which has been held online for the past two years, is opening Thursday, June 22, with an opening event beginning at 5:30. This year, 59 works in a variety of media from artists all over Ohio were accepted into the show. The Ohio Annual recognizes the extraordinary fine art and fine craft created in the Buckeye State and celebrates the museum’s commitment to discovering, encouraging, and recognizing Ohio’s finest artists and artisans. The exhibition is on view at the museum until Saturday, September 9, 2023.

The exhibition awards works in the following categories: Painting, all types; Drawing, Prints, and Collage; Sculpture; Jewelry and Functional Metalwork; Ceramics; Glass; Photography; and Fiber Art, Textiles, and Quilts.

#### **Zanesville Artists In the Exhibition**

Two artists in Zanesville were accepted into the 77<sup>th</sup> Ohio Annual Exhibition:

Alan Cottrill, Bust of Sojourner Truth, cast bronze.

Jana Pryor, hush, photography.

#### **About the Exhibition Opening**

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The 77<sup>th</sup> Ohio Annual Exhibition opening reception will be held Thursday, June 22, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at the Zanesville Museum of Art. The opening is free and open to the public and will feature a cash bar, refreshments, and live music by Brady Israel. The opening will also include the award announcement ceremony.

## **Exhibition Returning Onsite**

For the first time in three years, the Ohio Annual will be onsite in the ZMA's Great Gallery. Artists accepted into the exhibition will have their work viewed in-person by thousands of visitors.

## **About the Juror**

This year we are honored to have distinguished guest juror Simone Renee Spruce, who will select this year's participants and award winners. Simone Renee Spruce was born in Toledo, Ohio in 1960. Simone works predominantly in the medium of graphite pencil, but also works in painting, installation, theater, and poetry. She has been a teaching artist for over 40 years to various groups which include K-12, at-risk youth, adults, seniors and the developmentally disabled. Her art credentials also include curating and jurying exhibitions in 2D and 3D in various mediums, panelist on various private and grant-making institutions to the arts, an art consultant and grant writer. Simone completed her BA in Art at Findlay University in Findlay, Ohio in 1982. She received her MFA in Visual Art at Vermont College of Fine Arts in 2017. Simone is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts at Owens Community College and Owner/Operator of SRS Studios, LLC. She has participated in solo and group exhibitions in the Southeast, Midwest, and Northeast. Her work is in both public and private collections. She lives and works in Toledo, Ohio.

## **About the Exhibition Prizes**

Several cash prizes will be awarded during the 77<sup>th</sup> Ohio Annual Exhibition. Best in Show in the exhibition will win \$1,000. In addition, \$100 cash prizes will be awarded in

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each of the following categories: Painting; Drawing, Prints, and Collage; Sculpture; Jewelry and Functional Metalwork; Glass; and Photography. The Beaux Arts Club will also be awarding the Janice Ballas Excellence in Fiber Arts Award and the museum will be awarding the inaugural Ceramics Heritage Award.

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