

# Art Museum of Southeast Texas

500 Main

UPCOMING EXHIBITION

Winter 2021

## DELITA MARTIN CONJURE

March 13 - May 23, 2021

Opening Reception & Virtual Artist Talk:

6:30 pm, Friday, March 19, 2021 (by invitation only)

Virtual Panel Discussion: 2:00 pm, Saturday, March 20, 2021

Free Family Arts Day: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Saturday, May 15, 2021

The Art Museum of Southeast Texas is proud to present *Delita Martin: Conjure* as its spring 2021 exhibition. *Conjure* will debut over 20 large-scale, mixed media monoprints by Houston-based artist Delita Martin and will span five gallery spaces. Martin's work explores the reconstruction of the identity of Black women through the use of signs, symbols, and language associated with everyday life. Martin draws on imagery that spans from slavery through modern time, and she has created a visual language that intimately tells the story of women that have often been marginalized, offering a different perspective of the lives of Black women. Delita Martin is an artist currently based in Huffman, Texas.

Formerly a member of the fine arts faculty at UA Little Rock in Arkansas, Martin currently works as a full-time artist in her studio, Black Box Press. Martin's work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally. Most recently Martin's work was featured in *Calling Down the Spirits*, a solo exhibition at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. Supporting programming will include a panel discussion on the topic of the portrayal of Black women in the arts through time and a Free Family Arts Day. Please visit AMSET's website at [amset.org](http://amset.org) for more information about programming, or contact Caitlin Clay, Curator of Exhibitions, at [cclay@amset.org](mailto:cclay@amset.org).



Delita Martin, *Nightbird*, 2020, relief printing, charcoal, acrylic, liquid gold leaf, decorative papers, hand stitching, 72 x 51.5 in., private collection

This exhibition is generously funded, in part, by the Edaren Foundation, Humanities Texas, Texas Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, Rob Clark and Jerry Thacker, Tootsie Crutchfield, Caitlin Duerler, LeeAnn and Terry Garth, the City of Beaumont, the Wesley W. Washburn, M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund, the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation, and the members of the Art Museum of Southeast Texas. The panel discussion is made possible in part by a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).

# UPCOMING EXHIBITION

## DAVID CARGILL: *The Lighter Side*

June 5, 2021 – September 19, 2021

This summer, AMSET's main galleries will feature a solo exhibition of sculptor David Cargill. David lives and works in Beaumont, and his work is recognized in local, state, and national exhibitions and collections. Working mainly in bronze, stone, wood and ceramic, Cargill has created well-known large scale sculptures for churches, universities, commercial buildings, and private collectors. *The Lighter Side* will explore the boundless imagination of the artist, who manipulates different materials to create sculptures that seem to move, twist and



breathe. Focusing on themes of love, laughter and whimsy, viewers will have a chance to see sculptures from the permanent collection of the Art Museum of Southeast Texas, as well as loans from the artist and private collections in the state. *The Lighter Side* will also include a new documentary created by Ronald Jones showcasing David working in his Beaumont studio, as well as a small exhibition in the Conn Gallery explaining the bronze-making process David uses for his works.

This exhibition is generously funded, in part, by the Edaren Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Texas Commission on the Arts, the Garth Family Partnership in memory of Mary Jane Garth and Harriet Garth, the City of Beaumont, the Wesley W. Washburn, M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund, and the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation. Additional funding provided by Kim and Roy Steinhagen.

## CONN GALLERY

### *Delita Martin: The Dinner Table*

In concurrence with the Main Galleries' spring exhibition *DELITA MARTIN: Conjure* (on view March 13 – May 23, 2021), the Conn Gallery will feature the site-specific installation *The Dinner Table* by Delita Martin. Over 150 individual white ceramic plates will hang on the walls. Each plate depicts a lithographic crayon drawing of an individual woman of color. The portraits are friends, relatives and acquaintances of the artist. Creating these plates was a repetitive process for Martin, much like her printmaking, and each one of the plates shows a distinct personality, also like her prints. *The Dinner Table* has been shown in Austin, Arkansas and Art League, Houston and each installation is different depending upon the space. This installation also includes a table and chairs so you, too may have a seat at the table while viewing these extraordinary portraits.





# Calling all AMSET past President's Club Members!



**A**MSET is looking for these President's Club bronze awards that were given out during the late 1980's to museum members. David created the awards to look like the inside of AMSET's galleries when all the awards are combined together. AMSET is actively seeking the awards so that they can be displayed in the Conn Gallery for *The Lighter Side*. If you have an award or if your family has an award, please contact Caitlin Clay, Curator of Exhibitions, at 409-832-3432 or email her at [cclay@amset.org](mailto:cclay@amset.org).

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Re-visit *From the Vault: Tyler Museum of Art* and *Perspectives: Recent Acquisitions and Selections from the Permanent Collection* virtually with some of AMSET's exciting online artist and curator talks!  
(Virtual programming available on AMSET's Facebook and Youtube pages)

**Virtual Conversation with  
TMA Curator Caleb Bell**

**Virtual Conversation with  
Artist Geoff Winningham**

**Taste of the Arts Lecture Series:  
Virtual Conversation with Christopher Troutman**

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## WEST HALL

Looking for an exhibition space that is constantly rotating out artwork? Look no further than AMSET's West Hall. Currently a selection of cowboy-inspired permanent collection artworks is on view, featuring the works of Mary McCleary, Ray Strang, David Adickes, Earl Cabaniss, Mamie Deschillie, Steve Hodges, Deacon Eddie Moore, and Michael O'Brien. The show includes artworks of all materials, mediums and styles, including mixed media collages, oil on canvas, acrylic on paper, oil on panel, photography, and sculpture. Put on your cowboy boots and head over to the West Hall because it won't be long till these bronco-busting, sweet-talking, gun-slinging buckaroos are headed into the sunset (and when we say sunset, we mean back to collections storage). West Hall will be re-installed on February 25th for the 35th iteration of AMSET's Annual Protégé Competition and Exhibition for local high school seniors. Disappointed you missed the cowboys? No worries partner, they will be back on April 1st.



Earl Cabaniss, *Cowboy*, 1983, metal, gift of Warren & Sylvia Lowe PC 1996.01.05

## CAFÉ ARTS SERIES FOR LOCAL ARTISTS

### BEAUMONT CAMERA CLUB: GROUP EXHIBITION

February 18 – May 15, 2021



Bonnie Burke, *First Light* (digital print), Georgie Hinch, *Abstract of Nature* (digital print), Karen McCormick, *Cold Stroll* (digital print), Cynthia Parish, *Sunset Paddle* (digital print). All images courtesy of the artists.

AMSET is proud to announce its first group exhibition in the Café Arts Series in partnership with the Beaumont Camera Club (BCC). The exhibition will include over 20 photographs that were selected from BCC active members by a committee of Camera Club officers. Dennis Kiel, director of the Dishman Art Museum at Lamar University, will select first, second, and third place prize winners from

the group exhibition. The first place winner will present a solo exhibition in the Café next February 2022. Visit the museum and enjoy lunch in the café while viewing some of our area's most talented photographers' works on display. Interested in joining the Beaumont Camera Club? The Camera Club is made up of amateur and professional photographers from all over Southeast Texas. The club meets

twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Beaumont Botanical Gardens (6088 Babe Zaharias Dr., Beaumont, TX 77705) to discuss formal techniques and to increase their technical knowledge. Each month includes a themed contest where members can enter 2 artworks of their choice.

Visit their website at [beaumontcameraclub.com](http://beaumontcameraclub.com) or contact the Club at [BeaumontCameraClub@gmail.com](mailto:BeaumontCameraClub@gmail.com).



# RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Pat Colville, *Summer (Diptych)*, 1989

A diptych by Houston-based artist Pat Colville was presented to the Acquisitions Committee on February of this year. Colville was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. She received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Houston and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Oklahoma.

In her distinguished career as an artist, she has received multiple awards such as the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant in 2010, a Benjamin Altman Award in Painting in 2008, and two National Endowment for the Arts Grants in Drawing. Some of her most notable exhibitions took place at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (Texas), the New Orleans Museum of Art (Louisiana), the National Academy



Museum (New York), DeCordova Museum (Massachusetts), El Paso Museum (Texas), and the Museum of South Texas (Texas). Colville was also an influential educator who taught for twenty years at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and

Art in New York City, as well as the Glassell School of Art, The University of Houston, St. Thomas University, Bennington College, and Sarah Lawrence College.

This diptych is characteristic of the artist's work with its fast, gestural brushstrokes in oil paint. Her style of abstraction is light and almost whimsical, yet it demonstrates a great sensitivity to color, shape, and composition – which was influenced by the history of Chinese and Japanese landscape paintings from the 13th and 14th century. This diptych was kindly donated

by Rob Clark and Jerry Thacker to the museum, and we are very excited to expand our collection of female abstract painters from the 20th century!

Delita Martin, *Redbird*, 2020

The Acquisitions Committee has approved for Delita Martin's monoprint *Redbird* to be added to the permanent collection at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas. Delita Martin is a Houston-based contemporary artist, whose work incorporates painting, drawing, and printmaking.

Delita Martin received her Bachelor's degree from Texas Southern University and her Master of Fine Arts from Purdue University. Her work is in multiple private collections and is included in several public institutions, such as the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Minnesota), Crystal Bridges Museum (Arkansas), National Museum of Women in the Arts (Washington, DC), The Studio Museum in Harlem (New York), and many more. Martin has received much praise from the press, where she's been featured widely. She has also received multiple awards,



such as the Barbara Deming Award, Emerging Voices Award, the Telly Award, and many other awards.

The work *Redbird* is a self-portrait made in the artist's distinctive style, which makes it a very special piece to be approved for acquisition at AMSET. Her work consists of portraiture of African American women in various poses, and the images are constructed with mixed media materials such as paper, fabric, acrylic paint, charcoal, and more. Her work combines personal and shared symbolism, as well as cultural markers from history; she invites the viewer to consider the point of intersection between the spiritual and the physical world, and the bonds that women create across these two realms. Delita Martin's work will be exhibited at AMSET in *Conjure* which will open on March 13, and remain on view until May 23, 2021.

Ruth Laird, *Untitled Sculpture*

Ruth Laird was a Houston-born artist who resided in Rockport until her passing in 2007. She attended the University of Texas at Austin and Cranbrook Academy in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. As an accomplished educator, she taught ceramics at the University of Houston, the University of Saint Thomas, and she was also the assistant dean at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. She received multiple awards in her professional career as an artist including a travel study grant by the Texas Swedish Cultural Foundation, Woman of the Year Houston chapter of Theta Sigma



Phi in 1968, and Woman of Press for her contributions in the field of fine art. The Acquisitions Committee has approved one of her abstract vessels to become a part of AMSET's permanent collection. This beautiful object, which is characteristic of Ruth Laird's distinctive artistic style, will complement the three small sculptures by Laird which are already part of the museum's collection. Her works often exist in the space between functionality and decoration, and are made at an intimate scale. The donation comes from Lilliana and René Greenwald, and AMSET is excited to have it in our collection.

## BEULAH NORMAN RETIRES AFTER 30 YEARS AT AMSET

AMSET said farewell to their beloved custodian Beulah Norman last week. Beulah has kept the museum in tip top shape for over 30 years, which is very demanding job in a 35,000 square foot space of constant activity. Beulah was so much more than a custodian to AMSET. She was the staff morale officer. She made sure that every staff member received a birthday card signed by everyone on their birthday and she never forgot a holiday. She always put special treats in everyone's mailboxes for Christmas, Easter, Halloween, Mother's Day etc. Although retired, Beulah assures us that she will continue to volunteer at AMSET. True to her word, she was back this week putting together Family Art Day activity packets. The Board of Trustees and entire staff would like to thank Beulah for 30 years of service to the Art Museum of Southeast Texas.



Andy Gardner, Beulah Norman, & Lynn Castle



# SPECIAL EVENTS

## ART AUCTION A VIRTUAL SUCCESS!

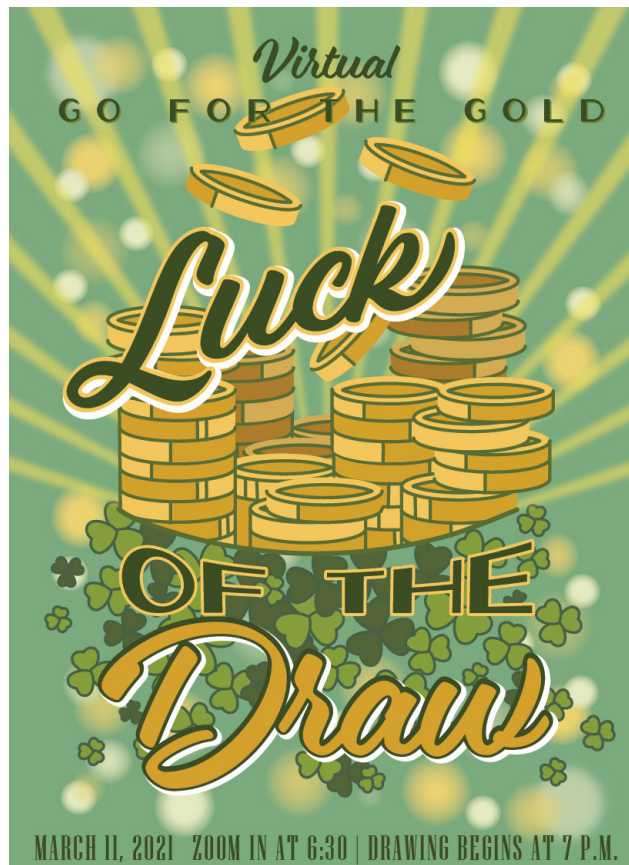
**T**hanks to everyone who supported AMSET's first Virtual Art Auction held via Zoom on Thursday January 21, 2021 with a net profit of nearly \$9,000. Proceeds will be directed towards education and exhibition programming and the acquisitions fund. Participants were invited to order wine and a delicious gumbo dinner "to go" from the museum's caterer, Two Magnolias, as part of the evening's festivities. One week prior to the live bidding, the artwork was on preview in the museum's West Hall Gallery as well as the museum's website. It was open for silent bidding and "buy it now" opportunities. Forty-three of forty-six works of art sold including artwork by local artists, and donated artwork to AMSET, including an impressive selection from the John Gaston Fairey Collection of Mexican Folk Art that was not designated for the permanent collection.

Special thanks to local artists Colleen Burns, Mike Cacioppo, Rob Clark, Betty Clarke, Albert Faggard, Amy Faggard, Cat Holtzclaw, Jamie Kessler, Karen McCormick and Mark Nesmith who generously donated their original artwork to this sale. We are greatly appreciative of Board member Albert Nolen who tirelessly gives of his talents and served as auctioneer for the evening.

## AMSET VIRTUAL a u c t i o n

## GO FOR THE GOLD: *Luck of the Draw* THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021

**L**ass and Lassies! It's that time of year again! Time to buy yer luck of the Irish green to gold ticket for the annual Go for the Gold reverse drawing event. Since we aren't quite lucky enough to be out of the pandemic yet, it will be, yep, you guessed it VIRTUAL!! On Thursday, March 11, tune in at 6:30 p.m. for a little St. Paddy's day pre-party and promptly at 7:00 p.m. the drawing will begin. Since yer ticket can't get you and yer Irish BFF in for dinner and drinks all night, the leprechauns at AMSET have come up with a plan. Yer ticket, even if you don't win \$10,000, will still get you and a buddy in for lunch for two at Two Magnolias – downtown's premier lunch spot.



Haven't bought yer ticket yet? No worries! We've 3 convenient ways to help ya. Call AMSET at 409-832-3432, contact yer favorite board member or visit our website [www.amset.org](http://www.amset.org), pull down the events tab, then "register" and you're "in like Flynn." Remember only 450 tickets can be sold and prizes will be given away all night long, including premium wine and non-circulated silver coins. The last three tickets drawn are \$1,000, \$1,500 and \$10,000 winners. Remember, keep yer four leaf clover with ya that day! May the luck of the Irish be with ya!



2020 Protégé winners and juror David Cargill

**N**ow in its 35th year, the Protégé Competition and Exhibition was created specifically to encourage graduating high school seniors to begin taking the steps necessary to become part of the world of art. This year's Protégé juror was Delita Martin. Martin was born in Conroe, Texas and currently lives and works as a full-time multimedia artist in Huffman, Texas. Martin creates large-scale prints on which she draws, sews, collages and paints. She utilizes both subject and space to create arresting images, particularly of Black women, that highlight the

historical absence of black bodies in Western art. Martin will have a solo exhibition titled *Conjure* at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas (March 13 - May 23 2021).

This competition allows students to begin learning about the evaluation processes used in the art world. Prizes for winners include scholarships to Lamar University's Art Department and gift certificates for art supplies.

If you know a budding young artist, counsel him or her to prepare

to enter next school year's annual Protégé Competition and Exhibition. Entries are accepted annually, in early January, and students may enter any artwork created after August 2021. Students need not be part of an organized art class to enter.

Join us to see what great works of art this year's students have created at the 2021 Protégé Exhibition. It will be on display in AMSET's West Hall from February 25 - March 28, 2021.

## AMSET RECEIVES GENEROUS BEQUEST FROM BESSIE FISHER CHISUM

**T**he Art Museum of Southeast Texas is the grateful recipient of a very generous gift from the estate of Bessie Leona Fisher Chisum. Bessie bequeathed \$10,000 to the ever-popular Family Arts Day and \$15,000 to establish the Stewart M. Chisum and Bessie Fisher Chisum scholarship fund which will be awarded in increments of \$2,500 over the next six years to a college bound art student. This scholarship will be offered to Protégé winners. Protege is the museum's annual juried art competition for high school seniors. Bessie was an active participant at AMSET having served on the Board of Trustees and as Board President in 1991-1992. She was engaged throughout the community, and worked with Beaumont Main Street, The Beaumont Historic Land Commission, Rotary Club of Beaumont and the Junior League of Beaumont among others. Bessie served as the executive director of Leadership Southeast Texas (LSET) for 25 years. LSET is dedicated to providing leadership training and programming for its participants and



impacted more than 1200 active members under her direction. Bessie remained active at AMSET serving as an Advisory Trustee until her death on May 30, 2020. She will be greatly missed for her dedication to the community and her business acumen.



# Art Museum of Southeast Texas (AMSET)

2019 - 2020 Contributors of \$250+

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Mrs. Cathy & Mr. Frank Zummo

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*AMSET would like to extend a special Thank You to:*

**Julie & Shyam Kumar and Debbie Montgomery**  
who made a donation  
in Memory of  
*Vivian Escagne*

**Kathé & Jim Hendricks**  
who donated a Gift of Art  
in Memory of  
*Clint Willour*

**Regina J. Rogers**  
who made a donation  
in Memory of  
*Charles Thompson, Jr.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Café Arts Series for Local Artists –

*Beaumont Camera Club: Group Show*

*Catherine Holtzclaw*

Winter Family Arts Day Drive-Thru

ArTaco (coincides with Beaumont Restaurant Week)

Go for the Gold: Luck of the Draw

First Thursday

First Thursday

Spring Exhibition, *Delita Martin: Conjure*

Virtual Opening Reception

Virtual Panel Discussion

Summer Exhibition, *David Cargill: The Lighter Side*

Spring Book Club

On view February 18 - May 15, 2021

Artist Reception April 1, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.

On view May 20 - August 15, 2021

Saturday, February 27, 2021 @ 10 a.m.

Saturday, March 6, 2021 @ 11 a.m.

On Zoom March 11, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 2, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 1, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.

On view March 13 - May 23, 2021

March 19, 2021 @ 7 p.m.

March 20, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

On view June 5 - September 19, 2021

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.



Art Museum of Southeast Texas  
500 Main Street Beaumont, Texas 77701  
(409) 832-3432 [www.amset.org](http://www.amset.org)  
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-4, Sat 11-4, Sun Closed



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