

ART MUSEUM OF SOUTHEAST TEX

Collection of Ilene and Paul Barr, Austin, Texas

painting. Since that class, Ellen has devoted as much time as possible to working in the studio at her home in Bastrop and teaching herself to paint. Inspired by the fine detail and luminous colors of the Flemish masters, she has researched their techniques and created a personal approach to painting with thin glazes of color over a grisaille. She applies these skills with a microscopic focus that makes each painting a tiny yet fully realized world, rich with detail and color. Ellen is represented by Moody Gallery in Houston, Texas. This exhibition features recent work from three series: Aesop's Fables, Love and Loss, and Greek Myths. Ellen's paintings tell a story that unfolds through layers of fine detail, carefully rendered textures and rich color. Her sources of inspiration include exposing human nature, the secret lives of animals, creatures and characters in myths. A hardbound, color catalogue with a scholarly essay by Dr. Maria Elena Sandovici (Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Lamar University), artist's statement, biography and full exhibition checklist accompanies the exhibition (available for sale in the museum gift shop, \$25 plus tax). The exhibition will travel to the Galveston Arts Center in spring 2018.

mandatory studio art class that

she fell in love with oil

This exhibition is generously supported, in part, by an award from the Texas Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, Lee Ann and Terry Garth, Wallace S. Wilson, Anonymous Donations from Patrons in Houston, Austin, Beaumont, San Antonio and Dallas, 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.

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CURRENT EXHIBITION The John Gaston Fairey Collection of Mexican Folk Art – An Introduction Opening Reception: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Friday, December 15, 2017 On view December 16, 2017 – March 4, 2018 Featured Speaker: Collector and AMSET Patron John Gaston Fairey

his exhibition features a selection of work from The John Gaston Fairey Collection of Mexican Folk Art, donated by John Gaston Fairey to the Art Museum of Southeast Texas in spring 2017, in memory of his parents, Isabel and Philip Fairey, who introduced him to the wonders of Mexico. Professor John Fairey retired from the College of Architecture and Environmental Design at Texas A&M University and is the creator of Peckerwood Gardens in Hempstead, Texas. Professor Fairey's collection of over 450 pieces of Mexican Folk Art, including textiles,

baskets and ceramics were primarily

sourced over approximately 30 years

Joaquiín Hernández, Zapotec Jaguar, n.d., hand carved wood with paint, The John Gaston Fairey Collection of Mexican Folk Art, Permanent Collection, Art Museum of Southeast Texas

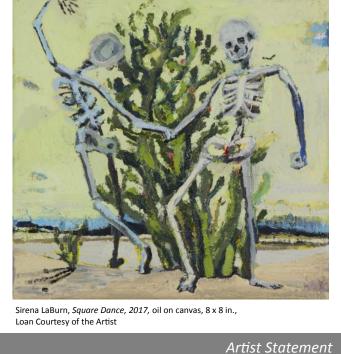
while on botanical hunting expeditions in the interior of Mexico. The majority of the work is from Oaxaca and from families of artists and artisans. There are many works by unknown artists, and many pieces acquired after multiple visits to an artist's home in remote and secluded sites. The collection also contains examples of works by several recognized and published artists, including Carlomagno Pedro Martínez and Angélica Vasquez Cruz. Formerly housed in a gallery adjacent to Professor Fairey's home on the grounds of Peckerwood Gardens in Hempstead, the collection is now part of AMSET's growing permanent collection. This exhibition serves as an introduction to The John Gaston Fairey Collection of Mexican Folk Art, and features works hand selected by Professor Fairey as focal points of the donation. Professor Fairey will join AMSET patrons at the opening reception, offering insight into his collection and passion for the arts of Mexico. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and

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communities, visit www.arts.gov.



On view through January 14, 2018



orn in Nederland, Texas, in 1986, Sirena LaBurn received her MFA in Painting from the New York Studio School (2014), and her BS in Arts Administration from Wagner College, New York (2009), where she occasionally spends time as a guest artist. Before beginning her MFA, LaBurn worked as Collections Catalogue Assistant at the Stark Museum of Art, Orange, Texas, and is a former studio resident at The Art Studio, Inc., Beaumont, Texas. In 2014, 2015, and 2017 she assisted Graham Nickson in his internationally recognized Drawing Marathon. She currently lives and works in Cologne, Germany.

A few years ago, after returning to live in Germany, I came up with an imaginary scenario in which I placed myself wandering in an American desert, with little food, water or gasoline. What are the types of things I would see? What would I encounter? What are the different possible outcomes for such a scenario? My current body of work attempts to answer this imaginary situation with visual imagery. I use books, films and photos to transport me back to the American West where I have traveled since 2011, and to a particularly memorable family trip to Death Valley when I was a child. This scenario allows me to explore various themes in my work, including symbols of the American West, human presence in nature, personal fears, my connection to my homeland, and death.



Opening Reception: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Friday, March 23, 2018 Featured Speaker: Artist Shaun Roberts

has exhibited at numerous institutions throughout the United States, including

haun Roberts lives in Nacogdoches, Texas, where he works as Assistant Professor of Painting at Stephen F. Austin State University. Shaun received his MFA in painting from the University of Washington in Seattle (2012) and his BFA in painting from Stephen F. Austin State University (2010). He is the recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant, New York (2012), a Hunting Art Prize Finalist (2014), and

invitational/juried shows, group and solo exhibitions. This solo exhibition, featuring recent oil paintings by the emerging artist, is his first solo museum feature. Shaun's compositions are often inspired by Italian Renaissance and Baroque masters, including Caravaggio, as seen in his dynamic, painterly strokes and theatrical settings. The artist has eschewed the characters of the early modern paintings and instead created a scene from everyday life in deep East Texas and incorporated contemporary people as actors and actresses in his compositions. Shaun frequently inserts himself into his compositions,



Shaun Roberts, Come and Take It, oil on canvas, 25 x 25 in.,

Loan Courtesy of the Artist as well as his father and other friends and family, giving his Baroque inspired compositions contemporary appeal and vigor. This exhibition will feature recent works by Roberts, and will be accompanied by a gallery guide with a critical essay written by Jill Carrington, Ph.D., Professor of Art History, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas.

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## UPCOMING EXHIBITION

ANTHONY SONNENBERG SET AND STAGE

**On view** March 17 – June 3, 2018 pening Reception: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., **Opening Performance:** 

nthony Sonnenberg lives and works in

Houston, Texas. He is represented by Art Palace in Houston and Conduit Gallery in Dallas. Born in Graham, Texas, Anthony graduated from the University of Texas, Austin, with a BA in Art Studio and emphasis in Italian and Art History (2009), followed by his MFA in Sculpture from the University of Washington, Seattle (2012). He is currently an Adjunct Professor of art at Lone Star College in Kingwood, Texas. Anthony is the recipient of numerous fellowships, awards and residencies, including a residency at Yaddo in Saratoga Springs, New York (2017); Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Houston (2016); and Lawndale Artists Studio Program, Houston (2015-16). Anthony has had solo exhibitions at Art Palace; Conduit Gallery;

Lawndale Art Center; and the Old Jail Art

Anthony Sonnenberg , Character Study for King Midas, 2016, Archival Ink Jet Print, 30" x 20", Courtesy of the Artist and Conduit Gallery

Center, Albany, as well as numerous group exhibitions. Recognized for his skills with ceramics, forming opulent candlesticks, chandeliers and arrangements, Anthony also makes crowns, clothing, mixed media wall pieces, installations, and performances that visualize the decadence characteristic of Baroque and Rococo periods. Such aesthetic superfluities, created with lavish fabrics, metals, ceramics dripping with brilliant glaze, flowers and found objects emphasize the overabundant excesses and ideas of constructed beauty throughout history. This exhibition will include a site-specific installation, including a stage and throne rife with Baroque accoutrements. A performance will take place during the opening reception, giving life to the artist's vision. A film documentary featuring Anthony's creation of AMSET's site-specific installation will be produced by Carrithers Studio in Houston and will be on view through the duration of the exhibition.

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Pearlescent Evening, the Art Museum of Southeast Texas 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Anniversary Gala was a roaring success despite rescheduling due to Hurricane Harvey. Chaired by the wonderful Rachael and Stephen Roane with help from their Gala Committee of Judy Black, Sandra Clark, Gerald Farha, Sandy Fertitta, Keely and Craig Kinsel, Lynda Moncla, Albert Nolen, Janey Phelan and Jessica Garth Whitney, a lovely dinner was served by Bando's Catering and music was provided by the talented vocalist Sharon Montgomery.

Our honored artist, Richard Stout, honored patrons, board presidents over the past decade, along with our committee brought in \$25,725.00 in straight donations made in their honor. We sold 25 tables and 193 people attended the party. The auction was a huge success, making \$35,330.00. It featured creative party packages, jewelry and artwork. AMSET wishes to thank all those who donated and supported the Gala, making it a sparkling success.

> **30th Anniversary Gala Sponsors** \$15,000 South Sea Pearl

\$10,000 Tahitian Pearls

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\$1,600 Cultured Pearls Ayna & John Pat Parsons, Jr. Capitol One Christus Southeast Texas - St. Elizabeth Colleen Burns, Susie McDermand, Martha Gideon, and Shirley Laine Cook Parker, P.L.L.C Lamar Foundation Mary Reed Williams Mehaffy Weber Melanie Dishman elody & Pat Parsons, Paige & Morris Windham, and Diane & Don Shay

**EVENTS** 

Gala Attendees Contribute to Harvey Relief

pecial thanks to these people who made contributions at the Anniversary Gala to assist Hurricane Harvey victi A check for \$2,500.00 will be presented to the Beaumont Rotary Foundation to purchase construction supplies to rebuild homes in the Golden Triangle.

Susan and Tim Byrom Joanne Brown **Rocky and Margie Chase** Sandra Clark Betty & Dr. Henri Des Clarke The Honorable Marcia & Seth Crone **Gerald Farha** Kerri and Shaheen Farah Sandy & Joseph Fertitta LeeAnn & Terry Garth Jennifer Gordy Rusty Hall & Ann Creswell

John Hawa Derina & Paul Holtzhausen Pat Klein Kevin Laine Alison & Mark Low Lynda & Ken Moncla Nell and Dr. William Morris Rachael & Stephen Roane Allen Runte Susan & Jimmy Simmons Wyatt Snider Jo Vance **Regina Winegar** 





Competition and Exhibition n its 32<sup>nd</sup> year, the Protégé Competition and

Exhibition encourages graduating high school seniors to begin taking the steps necessary to become part of the world of art. This year's Protégé juror will be

Ellen Tanner. In 2003, Tanner earned a degree in Art Education from the University of Texas. Tanner's recent

artwork includes explorations of Aesop's Fables, Greek Myths, and installations incorporating found objects

and fantastical animal stories. The works from these series

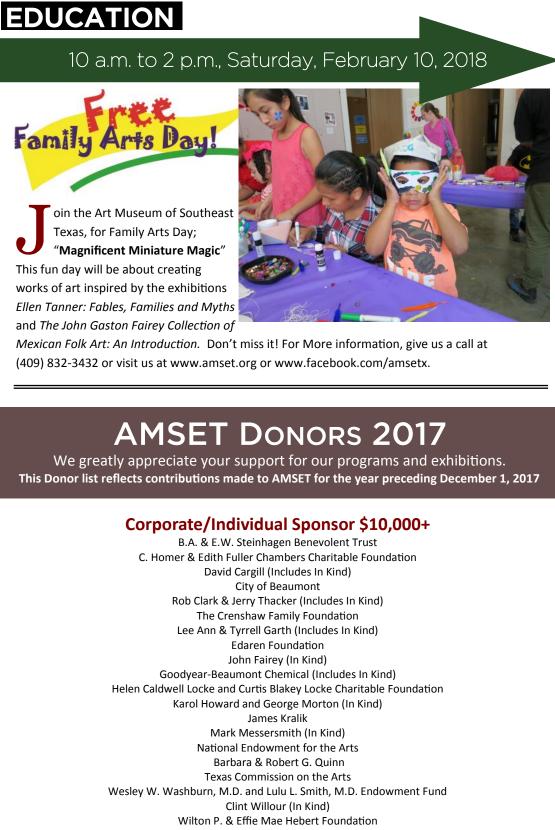
will be featured in a solo exhibition in the main galleries (December 16, 2017 - March 4, 2018). In addition to creating works in her home studio, Tanner enjoys giving private art lessons to talented young artists of many ages. The Protégé competition allows students to begin learning about the evaluation processes used in

Protégé 2017 Winner, Baylee Battise, "Doth Slay the Word", papier-mâché

the art world. Prizes for winners include scholarships to Lamar University's Art Department and gift certificates for art supplies. Requirements and materials for entries can be found at <u>www.amset.org</u>. If you know a budding young artist, counsel him or her to prepare to enter this school year's

annual Protégé Competition and Exhibition. Entries will be accepted from January 5 - 18, 2018 and students may enter any work created after August 2017. 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 2018 Protégé

Reception and Awards Ceremony on February 22, 2018 from 6-7:30pm. The Protégé Exhibition will be on display in the Conn Take pART Gallery until March 25, 2018.



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**Richard Stout** The Houston Artist's Fund/ Richard Stout Elizabeth & Russell Waddill **Gilbert Low** 

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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Friday, December 15, 2017 Friday, December 15, 2017 Sunday, January 18, 2018 Friday, February 9, 2018 Saturday, February 10, 2018 Thursday, March 8, 2018 Friday, March 17, 2018 Friday, March 17, 2018

Ellen Tanner: Fables, Families and Myths Reception John Gaston Fairey Opening Reception Café Arts Series Courtni Meadows: Rock On AMSET Mardi pARTy 2018 Winter Family Arts Days Go for the Gold Party & Reverse Drawing Shaun Roberts: Rebels and Renegades Reception Anthony Sonnenberg: Set and Stage Reception