

Colby Sawyer College Hosts Inner Visions

Friday, October 13 from 5-7 p.m.

Press release

This October, Colby-Sawyer invites the public inside its new Center for Art + Design to view an extraordinary exhibition composed primarily of outsider art. Colby-Sawyer and the Fine and Performing Arts Department is proud to host "Inner Visions: Selections from the Collection of Beverly Stearns Bernson '55" as the first exhibition in the center's stunning Davidow Gallery. An opening reception will be held Friday, Oct. 13, from 5 to 7 P.M.

According to the Sonja C. Davidow Endowed Chair in the Fine & Performing Arts and Gallery Director Bert Yarborough, "Over the past 30 or more years, outsider art has become more prominent in terms of its value, but artists have always valued this kind of work." The work, he said, is created by people who make art for reasons other than fame or fortune. "They're often creatively compelled in mysterious ways," he adds. "It's work that is utterly truthful." Outsider artists exist outside the conventional boundaries of the art world. They are often untrained, self-taught visionaries.

The pieces in the exhibition are on loan from the private collection of Beverly Stearns Bernson '55, a graduate of the college who began collecting outsider art in the mid-1980s. The exhibition will feature some of the most highly regarded outsider artists in the world, including Martin Ramirez (1895-1963), Bill Traylor (1853-1949) and Nellie Mae Rowe (1900-1982). Ramirez was a self-taught artist diagnosed with schizophrenia and institutionalized at DeWitt State Hospital. Traylor was a homeless man who painted precociously modern representations of life in Montgomery, Ala., from his vantage point on the sidewalk. Rowe, a self-taught African-American artist known for her painting, photography, collage and sculpture, is one of America's most important folk artists.

"It's a great treat for me and my family for these works to be presented as the first show in the new Center for Art + Design," said Bernson. "Thanks to ev-

eryone at Colby-Sawyer for honoring me in this way. It will be fun to share all my years of collecting."

In keeping with Colby-Sawyer's dedication to combining experiential learning with professional experience, students played instrumental roles in preparing for the exhibition. Graphic design major John Fownes '17 oversaw the design of the show's catalog, which includes artist biographies written by English major Matthew Nosal '17. Gallery interns and students enrolled in ART 115: Exhibition Foundations helped install the artwork.

As well as providing opportunities for students to gain experience working in a gallery setting, the exhibition will allow community members to appreciate and enjoy artwork that, according to Professor Yarborough, has a power and a presence that is compelling and engaging.

"As an artist, educator and gallery director," Professor Yarborough noted, "I thought it would be a great opportunity to show this kind of work in a region where it might not normally be seen."

The Center for Art + Design

The Center for Art + Design is a 15,000-square-foot art facility that offers studios, a state-of-the-art black box theater, the Davidow Fine Art Gallery with views of Mount Kearsarge, as well as faculty offices, a box office and an outdoor sculpture garden.

Sustained fundraising efforts made the project possible, and an endowment created through an alumna's gift will support the building's operation.

The center was designed by the S/L/A/M Collaborative of Glastonbury, Conn., which also designed the Windy Hill School (2010) and the Ware Student Center expansion (2013).

The Arts at Colby-Sawyer

Studying the arts at Colby-Sawyer is a multidimensional experience that blends a student's creative talent with professional preparation and opportunities to learn alongside talented faculty and guest artists. B.A. and B.F.A. programs are offered in studio art with concentrations in ceramics, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture, as well as in graphic design.

New London Barn Playhouse Presents On Golden Pond

Running until September 3

The New London Barn Playhouse's historic 85th season has generated fabulous reviews and broken box office records. As our final production for the season, On Golden Pond features a cast of seasoned television and Broadway veterans as well as rising stars from our Junior Intern program. This beautiful and bittersweet play is the perfect book-end to this exciting season.

On Golden Pond tells the story of Ethel and Norman Thayer, who have spent 48 summers on the shores of their idyllic New England lake. When their daughter Chelsea arrives with her new fiance and his son the couple's respite is shaken. Over the course of their summer on Golden Pond, the Thayer family revisits old hurts and finds new love in this bittersweet, award-winning play from Ernest Thompson.

The Barn is excited to welcome back Emmy-winner Gordon Clapp* (TV: 12 season of NYPD Blue, series regular on

Chicago Fire; B'Way: Glengary Glen Ross) as Norman. Joining him are Jeffries Thaiss* (Barn: The 39 Steps) as Bill Ray, Scott Sweatt (Barn: Fiddler on the Roof) as Charlie, and Junior Intern Shane Boucher as Billy Ray, Junior. The cast features Barn debuts from Kathy Manfre* (Peterborough Players: Steel Magnolias, Our Town) as Ethel and Susan Haefner* (B'Way: State Fair; Weston Playhouse: Tenderly; Northern Stage: Mamma Mia!). Helmed by director Chad Larabee+ (Northern Stage: Mary Poppins, Clybourne Park) making his Barn debut, On Golden Pond is truly not to be missed.

On Golden Pond runs for two weeks, Wednesday through Sunday (August 23-27) and Tuesday through Sunday (August 29-September 3). Evening performances are at 7:30 Tuesday through Saturday and 5 P.M. on Sunday. Wednesday matinees are at 2 P.M.. Tickets range from \$19.50-\$40.00, with Student Rush tickets available for \$18.00. Please call 603-526-6710 or visit us at nlbarn.org to purchase seats.

A Piece of the World to be discussed at Andover Book Club

Wednesday, September 27

Press release

A Piece of the World is the book chosen by the Andover Book Club for discussion at its next meeting on Wednesday, September 27. Author Christina Baker Kline has written a novel that imagines the story of the woman who crawls across a desolate field in Andrew Wyeth's iconic paint-

ing, "Christina's World," describing a life played out against the stern Maine landscape that Wyeth often portrayed in his art. The Book Club welcomes all those who enjoy reading and discussing books and meets on the 4th Wednesday each month at 7 P.M. at the Bachelder Library, 12 Chase Hill Road in East Andover. Copies of the book are available at the library; for more information call the Bachelder Library at 735-5076.



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