



Northern Illinois University

NIU Art Museum

Press Release

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For Immediate Release
August 8, 2019

Exploring Aspects of War In and Through the Visual Arts opens August 27, 2019 at the NIU Art Museum

DeKalb, IL – The Northern Illinois University Art Museum's exhibition *Exploring Aspects of War In and Through the Visual Arts* tackles the complex relationship of art in the depiction of war. The exhibition



Lalage Snow, *We Are the Not Dead, Returning by the Road We Came: Private Chris MacGregor, 24*, 2010, Digital prints (25 x 17 in.) each. Courtesy the artist.

opens Tuesday, August 27 and continues on view through October 18, 2019. Visitors are invited to a **public reception on Thursday, September 12 from 5-8 p.m.** with Informal Artists' Gallery Talks beginning at 6:30 p.m. launching a programming series expanding on the exhibition's themes. Please check the [NIU Art Museum's website](http://niu.edu/artmuseum) for the latest calendar of events at niu.edu/artmuseum.

The visual arts have served in all cultures and periods to document, motivate, memorialize, facilitate healing, critique and protest military action. *Exploring Aspects of War in and Through the Visual Arts* considers views on war and military conflict from the perspective of the homefront, the battlefield and back home again. Works on view in the exhibition range from contemporary installation sculptures, documentary photographs, to historic seventeenth century prints and cover a wide scope of perspectives including veteran self-expression, art therapy, patriotism, protest, and shifting social and political views.

Exhibition Support

Artwork and objects for the *Aspects of War* exhibition are on loan from the exhibiting artists; the Joiner History Room at the DeKalb County History Center, Sycamore; Elgin Area History Museum; Rockford Art Museum; St. Charles History Museum; Midway Village Museum, Rockford; the National Veterans Art Museum, Chicago; Northwestern University's Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Evanston; private collectors and the NIU Art Museum Collection.

Calendar of Events

Exploring Aspects of War In and Through the Visual Arts

August 27, 2019 – October 18, 2019

Thursday, September 12

Public Reception

5-8 p.m., Art Museum

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Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 12
Informal Artists' Gallery Talks
6:30 p.m., Art Museum

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Exploring Aspects of War In and Through the Visual Arts

Guided by input from the Exhibition Advisory Committee, Art Museum staff curated this exhibition from artwork entered in a public call for entry, invited artists, works borrowed from other institutions and private collections, as well as the NIU Art Museum collection. The exhibition represents artists: Kamal A. M. Al Mansour, Hannah Smith Allen, Michael Amato, Jerry Bleem, Zachary Burgart, Jose deVera, Sally Edelstein, Eric J. Garcia, Nathan Heilman, Lynn Johnson, George Klauba, Steve Kost, Darryl Lauster, Jacob Lee, John S. Linquist, Robert Patrick, C. Harold Perkins, Dennis Santella, Lalage Snow and David Joel Thomas. It includes loaned work by artists Pehr Anderson, George Bellows, Iggy Bennett, Jacques Callot, Warrington Colescott, Otto Dix, Winslow Homer, and Käthe Kollwitz, and selected posters from the *War is Trauma* portfolio, as well as artists Edwin Brewer, John Doyle, David Driesbach, Sandro Miller, Georges Rouault, and various prints documenting the Sino and Russo Japanese Wars from the NIU Art Museum Collection.

Additional Images



Left: Installation view of Eric J. Garcia's *War Nest in Operation Mom's Couch* at the National Veterans Art Museum, 2016. Acrylic murals, wooden sculpture, and audio recording by Mike Garcia, (20 x 24 x 20 ft.). Courtesy of the artist.



Right: Nathan Heilman. *Self*, 2018, barbed wire, (60 x 60 x 60 in.). Courtesy the artist.

About the NIU Art Museum

Serving Campus and Community by Balancing Traditional and Contemporary Art to Explore the Connections Made through Visual Culture.

Part of the [College of Visual and Performing Arts](#)' vibrant and active arts community on campus, the Northern Illinois University Art Museum is a resource for the NIU campus, local community and beyond. The NIU Art Museum is located on the first floor, west end of Altgeld Hall, at the corner of College Avenue and Castle Drives on the main campus of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL.

Parking is available in the Visitor Pay Lot located at 200 Carroll Ave. Limited metered and accessible parking spaces are available in front of Lowden Hall with accessible aisles and route to Altgeld. Campus parking is free on weekends and after 5 p.m. weeknights.

To request disability-related accommodations for museum programs, please contact the museum at least one week in advance. Northern Illinois University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

The exhibitions and programs of the NIU Art Museum are sponsored in part by the Illinois Arts Council Agency through federal funds provided by the National Endowment for the Arts; the Friends of the NIU Art Museum; and the College of Visual and Performing Arts' Season Presenting Sponsor Shaw Media.



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Art Museum

College of Visual and Performing Arts

Altgeld Hall 116, First Floor, West End
1425 W. Lincoln Hwy., Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, IL 60115
815-753-1936
niu.edu/artmuseum

Gallery Hours

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
Noon – 7 p.m. Thursday
Noon – 4 p.m. Sunday
By appointment for group tours.

Exhibitions are free and open to the public.

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