

# ACKLANDARTMUSEUM

## Ackland Showcases Modern Masters in *Carolina Collects: 150 Years of Modern and Contemporary Art*

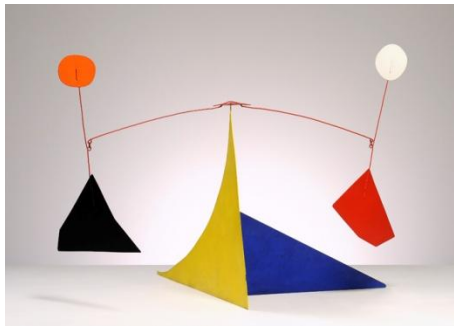
Major Artworks from Carolina Alumni Collections on view 9 September 2011

For immediate release, 22 August 2011

Chapel Hill, NC — Nearly 90 hidden treasures by some of the most renowned artists of the modern era—gathered entirely from the private collections of alumni of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill—will be on view in the Ackland Art Museum's fall exhibition *Carolina Collects: 150 Years of Modern and Contemporary Art*.



From an oil painting by Claude Monet to an Alexander Calder standing mobile, from a Pablo Picasso gouache to a suspended sculpture by Olafur Eliasson, *Carolina Collects* offers an extraordinary overview of art of the past 150 years through paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, and sculptures, many of which have rarely been exhibited. Sixty Carolina alumni, their degrees spanning more than 50 years, are lending art to the exhibition.



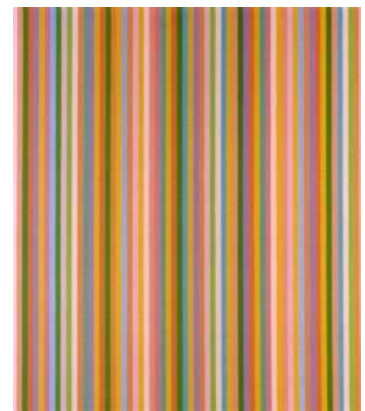
American artists included in *Carolina Collects* are Marsden Hartley, Thomas Hart Benton, Isamu Noguchi, George Bellows, Louise Nevelson, Arthur Dove, Milton Avery, Alice Neel, Richard Diebenkorn, David Smith, Hans Hofmann, Roy Lichtenstein, Meyer Schapiro, Andy Warhol, Robert Smithson, Joan Mitchell, Jasper Johns, Romare Bearden, Louise Bourgeois, Robert Colescott, Martin Puryear, Lynda Benglis, Lee Bontecou, and Glenn Ligon, among others.

European artists are also a significant presence in the exhibition, among them Camille Pissarro, Auguste Renoir, Gustave Doré, Paul Gauguin, André Derain, Henri Rousseau, Henri Matisse,

Emil Nolde, El Lissitzky, Pablo Picasso, Max Ernst, Marcel Duchamp, Henry Moore, Gerhard Richter, Georg Baselitz, Francesco Clemente, and Bridget Riley.

Another area in which *Carolina Collects* is particularly strong is photography, with photos by Lewis Hine, Walker Evans, O. Winston Link, Sally Mann, Irving Penn, Nan Goldin, Tina Barney, William Wegman, Gabriel Orozco, and others featured.

"*Carolina Collects* is a real tribute to the deep intellectualism and sharp visual sense that Carolina has nurtured in so many of its alums," says Sheldon Peck, (BS '63, DDS '66). "I began collecting art seriously twelve years after graduation, always with a sense of quality that I learned from the precious humanities electives I fit into my busy pre-med curriculum at Carolina."



In putting together *Carolina Collects*, exhibition curator and Ackland chief curator Peter Nisbet considered only works of art owned by alumni of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. “We know of only one other public university that has taken this approach, and that exhibition was over 40 years ago,” says Nisbet. He also chose only one outstanding work of art from any one artist, a policy that enables a great diversity of styles to be on view at once.

“The broad range of great art and artists that the Ackland has assembled for this exhibition is remarkable.—from icons of early modernism to big, bold contemporary pieces,” says Peck. “It’s a must-see show.”

“When we initially conceived this exhibition, we knew that art plays an important role in the lives of Carolina alumni,” say museum director Emily Kass, “We’ve been overwhelmed by the breadth and quality of the alumni collections of modern and contemporary art that we’ve been able to discover. The works on view are a testament to the degree to which the University’s graduates have made art an important part of their lives.”

“The Ackland Art Museum at UNC-Chapel Hill is a rare gem,” says Dr. J. Kenneth Chance (BA ’71). “To have some of our works of art included in *Carolina Collects* is both an honor and a delight.”

*Carolina Collects* will be accompanied by an illustrated publication and a series of related programming.

**Press Preview: Wednesday, 7 September 2011, 2:00 PM.**

Please contact Emily Bowles, Director of Communications, to confirm attendance: 919.843.3675 or [esbowles@email.unc.edu](mailto:esbowles@email.unc.edu).

# # #

## **The Ackland Art Museum**

The Ackland Art Museum is located on the historic campus of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Ackland’s holdings consist of more than 16,000 works of art, featuring significant collections of European masterworks, twentieth-century and contemporary art, African art, North Carolina pottery, and folk art. In addition, the Ackland has North Carolina’s premier collections of Asian art and works on paper (drawings, prints, and photographs). As an academic unit of the University, the Ackland serves broad local, state, and national constituencies.

## **Hours and Admission**

The Ackland is open Wednesday through Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Thursday 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM; and Sunday 1:00 – 5:00 PM. Admission to the Museum is always free, with donations accepted.

## **Location**

The Ackland Art Museum is located on South Columbia Street, near the corner of East Franklin Street, on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Parking is available at several nearby municipal and private parking decks, and at meters on Franklin Street. More information is available at 919.966.5736 or [www.ackland.org](http://www.ackland.org).

*For more information, please contact:* Emily Bowles, Director of Communications  
[esbowles@email.unc.edu](mailto:esbowles@email.unc.edu), 919.843.3675 [www.ackland.org](http://www.ackland.org)

Claude Monet, French, 1840–1926: *The Seine at Argenteuil*, 1877; oil on canvas. Lent by Julian H. Robertson, Jr. (B.A. ’55); Alexander Calder, American, 1898–1976: *Scale on Yellow and Blue*, 1972; painted metal. Lent by Peter Mallinson (BA ’82, MBA ’83) and Elisabetta Mallinson. © Calder Foundation, New York / Artist Rights Society (ARS) New York; Bridget Riley, British, b. 1931: *Ceres Fan*, 1985; oil on linen. Lent by Peter Mallinson (B.A. ’82, M.B.A. ’83) and Elisabetta Mallinson. © Bridget Riley 2011. All rights reserved, courtesy Karsten Schubert.