The Power of Color

JANUARY 30 – MARCH 31, 2018 | LOWER LEVEL GALLERIES

Unthinkable,
Sisavanh Phouthavong-Houghton
The turn of the calendar year marks another milestone in the life of the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art as we celebrate our 95th anniversary in 2018! This year promises to be one of our best yet as we highlight our Gibbons Georgian Silver collection with the publication of a new catalogue this spring and mount the largest scale exhibition in our history this fall as we welcome *Da Vinci: Machines*.

Before I look too far ahead, I want to thank Debbie and Dick Yoder for their service as our 2017 Gala Chairmen. Under their leadership, the auctions raised more than $104,000 for our education and exhibition programs. I would also like to commend Live Auction Chairmen Ann and John Barrow, Silent Auction Chairmen Lisa and Greg Bennett, as well as all of our committees. Of course, the event could not happen without the support of our auction donors, and we are grateful for their assistance. A listing of our volunteer committees and our donors can be found on pages 10 - 12 of this issue.

In honor of Mississippi’s bicentennial, we have installed works by Mississippi artists from our permanent collection in our Sanderson, Christian, and Foil Galleries. The show is a “who’s who” of Mississippi’s finest visual artists and will be on view through April 19.

*The Power of Color* opens January 30 and features three contemporary Southern artists, Kevin Cole, Sisavanh Phouthavong-Houghton, and Carl Joe Williams, who use vivid colors to produce work that reflects their own experiences. All three artists will be with us on the evening of Thursday, February 22 to discuss their work, and I hope you will join us. We are especially pleased that artist Kevin Cole will work with art students at Jones County Junior College as part of his visit.

First-time visitors to LRMA are usually intrigued by the architecture and details of the building. One of the most noticeable interior characteristics of the Museum is the incredible iron work found in the lobby and library area. Samuel Yellin of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is considered the master blacksmith of the 20th century, and we are proud to have his work in the Museum. As part of our 95th anniversary celebration, a special four-month long exhibit opens on March 20 and will highlight Yellin’s work in the Museum as part of our Collection Intervention series.

We recently received a $25,000 grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission to assist in purchasing a landscape painting for our American collection. Funding for this grant was provided by the Dille Fund for Art Acquisition of the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson. The grant will be matched by LRMA to purchase a painting by Edward Bannister which will be unveiled in the spring.

We hope this 95th anniversary year will tempt new and repeat patrons to explore LRMA. This past year was one of our most visited ever as we attracted visitors from 45 states and 24 countries, and we hope that number continues to grow.

— George Bassi
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22
5:30 p.m.  Gallery Talk with Kevin Cole, Sisavanh Phouthavong-Houghton, and Carl Joe Williams
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  Reception

This exhibition highlights the work of three contemporary artists working in the Southeast: Kevin Cole, Sisavanh Phouthavong-Houghton, and Carl Joe Williams. Kevin Cole is one of the most renowned mid-career artists in Atlanta, Georgia. His vibrant acrylics applied to twisting and curling canvases show the relationship between color and music, especially music as it relates to the African-American community. Tennessee artist Sisavanh Phouthavong-Houghton is one of the first professional Lao-American visual artists and educators of her generation. Through the rhythmic fragmentations and strong color contrasts in her powerful acrylic work, she explores the process of connecting and disconnecting with a place or community as an immigrant. Carl Joe Williams grabs abandoned televisions and other materials from the streets of his New Orleans neighborhood and then paints complex color combinations directly on the surfaces of these found forms. He also appropriates visual media and music clips to play on the television sets to address the physiological and historical concerns of everyday people.

Art professor and mixed media artist Kevin E. Cole was born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas in 1960. He received a bachelor of science degree in art education from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff in 1982; his master of arts degree in art education a year later, and his master of fine arts degree in drawing from Northern Illinois University in 1984. Cole began his career as an art teacher at Camp Creek Middle School in College Park, Georgia in 1985. At the same time, he became an adjunct professor at Georgia State University’s School of Art and Design where he remained until 1998. In 1990, Cole was chairperson of the visual and performing arts magnet program of Tri-Cities High School in East Point, Georgia until 1994. In 2003, he became the chairman of the Fine Arts Department at Westlake High School.
School where he created the school’s first arts program. He has been featured in Who’s Who in Education and received the Award of Excellence for Public Art by the Atlanta Urban Design Commission. In 1994, Cole was commissioned by the Coca-Cola Company to create a 15-story mural celebrating the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. The mural took two years to create and measures more than 800 square feet. Soul Ties That Matter, a 55-foot long installation, was recently installed in the Hartsfield-Jackson International Atlanta Airport.

Sisavanh Phouthavong-Houghton was born in Vientiane, Laos in 1976 and at the age of four, her family emigrated from Nong Khai refugee camp in Thailand to Winfield, KS. She earned a bachelor of fine arts (painting) from the University of Kansas and a master of fine arts (painting/drawing) from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, IL. She is currently an associate professor at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN, where she teaches advanced level painting courses. In 2014, she won an MTSU Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award. Her work has been seen in national and international solo, juried, and invitational exhibitions throughout the United States, Surinam, Belgium, France, Canada, and New Zealand. Most recently, Arts at the Embassy selected her collaborative artwork with Jarrod Houghton for a permanent collection at Paramaribo, Surinam. Phouthavong-Houghton has been published in Studio Visit magazine and has been recognized as a New Superstar of Southern Art by Oxford American. Her research has been funded several times by the Tennessee Arts Commission and MTSU grants. She has partnered with the Frist Center for the Visual Arts’ Educator for Community Engagement; the Oasis Center; and the Center for Refugees and Immigrants of Tennessee.

Carl Joe Williams, born in 1970 in New Orleans, Louisiana, is an American visual artist based in his hometown. Williams attended the New Orleans Center for Creative Art (NOCCA) where he received formal training. Williams continued his studies at Atlanta College of Art earning his bachelor of fine arts degree. Williams is one of the founders of Blights Out, a Creative Capital-supported project in New Orleans along with artists Lisa Sigal and Imani Jacqueline Brown. Blights Out is a community- and artist-led initiative to activate agency in neighborhood development. This initiative began as part of Prospect New Orleans, the largest biennial of international contemporary art in the U.S. Williams has had a variety of exhibitions including at the George Ohr-O’Keefe Museum Of Art in Biloxi, Mississippi; Crystal Bridges, in Bentonville, Arkansas; New Orleans Museum of Art; and Hammonds House Galleries, Atlanta, Georgia, among others. In 2013, he was a recipient of the Joan Mitchell Center NOLA Studio Artist Residence Program. His work is included in the Crystal Bridges collection.
SAMUEL YELLIN AND THE LAUREN ROGERS MUSEUM OF ART

MARCH 20 – JULY 22, 2018
PERMANENT COLLECTION AND STAIRWELL GALLERIES

This exhibition is the second in the “Collection Intervention” series, which places objects and special signage within the permanent collection gallery displays. The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art is a beautiful illustration of early 20th century interiors, the design of which was overseen by the Chicago firm of Watson and Walton. The spaces are accented by the handwrought ironwork of master blacksmith Samuel Yellin. Born in Mogilev, Russia, Yellin was apprenticed to an iron master at age 11. He left Russia and arrived in America at the age of 21. He eventually opened his own shop in Philadelphia, where he worked in traditional methods while encouraging creativity and contemporary design. During the building boom of the 1920s, the studio included as many as 250 artisans, and their work is found in some of the finest buildings in America.

When the studio’s workload slowed during the Depression, Yellin looked for a way to keep his workers busy. He created intricate designs on paper and asked them to experiment by executing them in “sketches of iron.” These works demonstrate a great ability to control metal, giving the impression that the material is far more flexible than it actually is.

The exhibition provides introductory signage in the Museum’s lobby, informational panels highlighting Yellin features throughout the building, actual paper records of the Museum building’s work from the Yellin archives, and iron sketches on loan from the artist’s granddaughter, Clare Yellin, an ironsmith who still runs the family business.

From Mississippi: Another Look At Our Artistic Heritage

SANDERSON, CHRISTIAN & FOIL GALLERIES ON VIEW THROUGH APRIL 19

In celebration of the bicentennial of Mississippi’s statehood, works by Mississippians in the LRMA permanent collection are on view in this exhibition featuring 70 works of art by 30 different artists. Included in the show are Walter Anderson, Marie Hull, Mildred and Karl Wolfe, Theora Hamblett, Bess Dawson, William Hollingsworth, William Dunlap, Dusti Bongé, Andrew Bucci, and Maltby Sykes, among others.

In 1994, the Museum presented a similar exhibition entitled From Mississippi: A Look At Our Artistic Heritage and featured an essay by Mississippi artist and professor Malcolm M. Norwood. Norwood celebrated the legacy and heritage of those artists in our state that came before and those working today and the importance of their work to be shown in museums for future generations. He wrote that Mississippi artists should “make our work as meaningful as possible to continue the tradition that has preceded us, and make the world ‘beat a path to our door’ to see what we have said through our art. Art may well be the best tourist attraction that we have in Mississippi.”
CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES & CLASSES

Home School Art

Tuesdays, January 23, February 27, March 27 and April 24
1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Museum Annex
Each class will offer a new art experience. No reservations are needed for this free make-and-take art program for home school families.

Spring Break Art Break

Wednesday - Friday, March 14 - 16
10:00 a.m. - noon
Museum Annex
Grades K5 - 6th
Participants will explore a variety of art mediums including collage, printmaking and painting with acrylics. Cost: Members $45; Non-members $55

ARTREACH EDUCATION UPDATES

Students at the Very Special Arts Festival in November
Laurel Senior Center is the site of monthly art programs led by LRMA.
Students created Mississippi paintings this fall.
Children viewing the small Native American baskets during Choctaw Days

CHILDREN’S POTTERY

Tuesdays and Thursdays
February 13, 15, 20 and 22
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Grades K5 - 6th
Carriage House Studio
Participants will be introduced to a variety of wheel-throwing and hand-building techniques. All supplies are included. Cost: Members $50; Non-members $60

ADULT POTTERY

Tuesdays and Thursdays
April 10, 12, 17 and 19
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Middle School to Adult
Carriage House Studio
Participants will create hand-built and wheel-thrown pottery. All materials are included. Cost: Members $60; Non-members $75

LRMA Education Programs are supported in part by The Essmueller Company Education Endowment Fund.
**ADULT CLASS**

**STILL LIFE PAINTING NIGHT**

Thursday, March 8  
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Carriage House Studio

This introductory painting class will be relaxed and fun for beginners and experienced artists. LRMA Curator of Education Mandy Buchanan will instruct participants on composition, color-mixing and basic still life painting techniques. All supplies are included. Cost: Members $40; Non-members $50

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**GLASS BLOWING DEMONSTRATION**

Led by Mohawk Steel and Glass  
Friday, March 23  
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
Carriage House Studio

FREE and open to the public. No reservation required.

As part of the demonstration, the first 20 participants who register with payment will have the opportunity to create a “one-of-a-kind” blown glass creation. The student works alongside the glass blower to create a blown glass ornament. Cost: $30 members; $40 non-members.

Mohawk Steel and Glass was opened in Hattiesburg in 2016 by sculptors Jeremy Thomley and Daniel Bell. Bell studied glass blowing at the Appalachian Center for Craft and Thomley’s background is large scale steel sculpture. Mohawk Steel and Glass is the only functioning hot shop in Mississippi. Make plans to attend this exciting event!

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**artTALK**

Thursday, January 18

Bobby Walters, watercolor artist  
Demonstration and Discussion

Thursday, March 15

Elizabeth Abston,  
Curator of the Collection,  
Mississippi Museum of Art

Thursday, April 19

Malcolm White and  
Ginger Williams Cook  
The Artful Evolution of Hal & Mal’s

 Noon – 1:00 p.m.  
Free and open to the public.  
Guests are welcome to bring their lunch; beverages and desserts will be provided.

Sponsored by  
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**Spring Break Festival**

Sponsored by  
Citizens Bank

Tuesday, March 13  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
LRMA front lawn

This free family event features hands-on art experiences, music, and animals from the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science.
Catherine Nowicki painting faces at Heritage Arts Festival

Faye Rogers, Vivian Blackledge, and Mary Anne Sumrall at the Very Special Arts Festival in November

Shelby Knotts helping at Choctaw Days in October

Cynthia Sheppard working with children at Choctaw Days

Diane Dudley, Faye Rogers, Nancy Guice, and Vivian Blackledge at the Guild Christmas Coffee at the home of Nancy & John Guice

Guild members at the Gala Auction Preview Party chaired by Sherry Shows
Garden Lecture

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15  10:30 a.m.  Sanderson Gallery
Dr. William C. Welch, professor of horticulture, Texas A & M University
Tickets: $25; includes lunch

Dr. Welch has worked closely with garden club and nursery organizations throughout his career and has been recognized for excellence in his educational programs. He has coordinated the accredited Landscape Design Study Courses at the national and state levels for many years, and has long been involved with the Texas Certified Nursery Professionals Program of the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association. A favorite organization is The Southern Garden History Society where he has served as president and is currently a member of the board of directors. He has authored and co-authored several books including Perennial Garden Color, The Southern Heirloom Garden, Antique Roses for the South, and the newly published The Rose Rustlers.

Welch has been a strong supporter and contributor to the Garden Club of America where he was recognized in 1993 as an Honorary Member. He received the Zone IX Historic Preservation Award in 2007 for his commitment to historic preservation of the Gulf Coast Landscape. In May, 2008, at their National Convention in Norfolk, VA Bill received the Garden Club of America Distinguished Service Medal for his horticultural work.

This event is co-sponsored by The Laurel Garden Club, a member of The Garden Clubs of America.

POETRY OUT LOUD

Friday, February 2, 2018, noon
LRMA Sanderson Gallery
Free and open to the public

Lauren Rogers Museum of Art will partner with the National Endowment for the Arts, the Poetry Foundation, and the Mississippi Arts Commission to host the Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest for the south region of Mississippi. Poetry Out Loud is a program that encourages high school students to learn about poetry through memorization, performance, and competition. The event is open to the public. High school students who are in the contest have the chance to be one of three finalists who advance to the state finals in March, where one winner will be selected to attend the national finals in Washington, D.C.

MUSEUM SHOP

Winter and Spring SALES

February
Valentine’s Day Jewelry Sale
Selected items up to 50% off

March Winds
St. Patrick’s Day
Willow Tree Sale 25% off

April Showers Sale
Selected Books discounted up to 50%
Umbrellas 25% off while they last
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NEW ACQUISITION

The medium of encaustic, in which Betsy Eby works, involves layering heated beeswax and colored pigments using knives, brushes, and a blow-torch. Trained as a classical pianist, she creates works that capture the movement and rhythms found in music and the natural world around her. When seeing the work in person, the viewer has an olfactory experience because of the strong scent of the natural beeswax.

The two parts of the diptych have musical inspirations. *La Sonnambula* suggests the title and the music of Bellini’s operetta, “the sleepwalker.” As the marks in the painting progress across the composition they move from close to the surface to deep in the encaustic, wavering between clarity and haziness. Having recently discovered her family’s ancestry in Sardinia, Eby based *Duru Duru* on a folk song from that rugged, coastal place in the Mediterranean.

Born in Seaside, Oregon, Eby earned her bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of Oregon, Eugene. She majored in art history, with an emphasis in ancient Greek, Roman, and Asian art. It was during her studies that she first learned about encaustic, a medium that dates to antiquity. She has spent much of her life on the Northwest Coast, and now divides her time between Columbus, the hometown of her husband, artist Bo Bartlett, and their island summer home in Maine.

ADOPT-A-BUS FUND

As school budget cuts and rising fuel costs forced schools to reduce or eliminate field trips, LRMA began an Adopt-A-Bus program in 2008 to help school groups visit the Museum. In addition to their annual membership, many LRMA members add a contribution to assist in providing transportation stipends for schools that bring students to LRMA for tours and activities. Teachers and administrators frequently remind the Museum staff that these students probably would not be able to visit LRMA otherwise. In 2017, 23 schools across south Mississippi visited the Museum with assistance from our Adopt-A-Bus Fund. With this assistance, students were able to enjoy tours, art activities, Choctaw Days and our Very Special Arts Festival. LRMA appreciates the continued support of this important fund!

**Schools assisted in 2017:**

Buckatunna School  
Dixie Attendance Center  
Ellisville State School  
Glade Elementary School  
Laurel Middle School  
Maddox Elementary School  
Mason Elementary School  
Northwest Middle School  
Oak Park Elementary School  
Parkview Elementary School  
Petal Elementary School  
Rawls Springs Attendance Center  
Seminary Elementary School  
South Jones Elementary School  
Quitman High School  
Quitman Jr. High School  
Quitman Lower Elementary School  
Quitman Upper Elementary School  
West Jones Elementary School  
West Jones High School  
West Jones Jr. High School  
William J. Berry Elementary School
**Development**

The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art provides exposure to the visual arts through focused collections, diversified exhibitions, and educational programs; encourages awareness of the aesthetic and cultural values of the visual arts; and seeks to enhance the quality of life in Laurel and Jones County, the state of Mississippi, and the Southern region.

LRMA is a private, non-profit organization operating for the benefit of the public.

**HOURS OF OPERATION:**
Tues-Sat, 10 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Sunday, 1 - 4 p.m.
Closed Mondays

ADMISION IS FREE.

LRMA is supported by Memberships, Donations, The Emmaun Memorial Foundation, Jones County, Laurel Arts League, Mississippi Arts Commission and The National Endowment for the Arts. This publication is funded in part by a grant from The Mississippi Arts Commission and The National Endowment for the Arts.

LRMA CONTRIBUTIONS:
HOW MUCH IS DEDUCTIBLE?
If you have questions concerning the deductible limits of your Museum contributions for IRS purposes including fund-raising events (i.e. Gala), please call the Museum Office.

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For: Mrs. Mike Foil (Linda)
From: Claudia Hal, Stephanie & Robert Harris
For: Mr. Stewart Gammill III

For: Mr. & Mrs. George Bassi
Mr. & Mrs. Gardiner Green Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. William Green
Mrs. F.H. Walker

For: Mrs. Jack Gunn (Ellen)
For: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hyson
For: Mr. Johnny McLeod
For: Mrs. F.H. Walker

For: Mrs. Dewey Sandersen (Teeny)
For: Mr. & Mrs. Trent Mullow
For: Mr. Dan Taylor
For: Mr. & Mrs. Trent Mullow

For: Mrs. Thomas Walters (Nancy)
For: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hyson
For: Mrs. Chris Wilson (Holly)
For: Mrs. F.H. Walker

For: Mr. John Wood
For: Mr. & Mrs. Trent Mullow
For: Mrs. Ed Young (Jo Beth)
For: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hyson

**Tributes**
(8/16/2017 through 12/15/2017)

For: Mr. & Mrs. Doug Boone
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Harlow
Mr. & Mrs. William Sumrall

For: Mrs. Stewart Gilchrist
For: Ms. Kelsey Bryant
Mr. & Mrs. William Carter
Mr. Mike Foll

Mrs. John Hendrickson
Benjamin Hopkins III
Ms. Christine Hopkins
Mr. & Mrs. Sydney Lassen
Dr. Maureen Libert
Mrs. George Thuraczy

From: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hyson
For: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hyson
Mr. & Mrs. John Lindsey
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Lindsey
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Reeder

From: Ms. Kelsey Bryant
For: Mr. William Mullins III
From: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hynson
For: Mrs. L.J. Rosentreter (Joan)
From: Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wilson
For: Mr. & Mrs. Richard Yoder
From: Mr. & Mrs. Larry O’Neal

**Donations**
(8/16/2017 through 12/15/2017)

**Capital Improvement Fund**
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Biglane

**Programs, Events and Exhibitions**
Dr. & Mrs. Rex Applewhite
Mr. & Mrs. Stevens Bateman Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. William Burton
Mr. & Mrs. Lampkin Butts
Ms. Sally Cary
Mrs. William Clark
Community Foundation of Greater Jackson
Dixie Electric Power Association
Mississippi Power Co.

Ms. Charlotte Myrick
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Pearigen
Piper Jaffrey & Co.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rogers
Mr. David Ryan
Sanderson Farms
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Sanderson Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Tisi
West Quality Food Service
Dr. & Mrs. Greer Whitacre

**In-Kind Donations**
(8/16/2017 through 12/15/2017)

Coca-Cola of Laurel
Junior Auxiliary of Laurel
Laurel Arts League
West Jones Beta Club
The City of Laurel
Students from Dixie Attendance Center with their Ida Kohlmeyer-inspired artwork

Participants painting a Mississippi Bicentennial mural at Heritage Arts Festival

Choctaw dancers performing at Choctaw Days in October

Junior Auxiliary of Laurel volunteers helping with hands-on art activities at Choctaw Days

Visitors enjoying the pop-up quilt show as part of Heritage Arts Festival celebrating Mississippi’s Bicentennial

Gala Live Auction chairmen Ann & John Barrow and Silent Auction chairmen Lisa & Greg Bennett

Lori Hearn’s State Farm agency participating in Heritage Arts Festival in October

Robert St. John and Wyatt Waters at the signing of their latest book at Holiday Open House
**LRMA Calendar**

### JANUARY
16  Docent Education  
18  Art Talk  
23  Guild Meeting  
   Home School Art  
24  Museum Board Meeting  
30  *The Power of Color* opens  

### FEBRUARY
2  Poetry Out Loud  
13  Children’s Pottery  
15  Garden Lecture  
   Children’s Pottery  
20  Docent Education  
   Children’s Pottery  
22  *The Power of Color*  
   Panel Discussion & Reception  
   Children’s Pottery  
27  Guild Meeting  
   Home School Art  

### MARCH
8  Still Life Painting Class  
13  Spring Break Festival  
14-16  Spring Break Art Break  
15  Art Talk  
20  Samuel Yellin exhibition opens  
23  Glass blowing Demonstration  
27  Guild Meeting  
   Home School Art  
28  Museum Board Meeting  
   Museum Council Meeting  
30  *The Power of Color* opens  

### APRIL
1  Easter (Museum closed)  
10  Adult Pottery  
12  Adult Pottery  
17  Adult Pottery  
19  Art Talk  
   Adult Pottery  
24  Guild Meeting  
   Home School Art  

Follow LRMA on Facebook at Lauren Rogers Museum of Art and Twitter@LaurenRogersMoA.

Send your email address to info@LRMA.org if you would like to receive membership e-blasts with updates on events and art classes.

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**UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS**

**Elegance and Industry in the Era of the Georges: Decorative Arts in 18th-Century England and America**  
May 1 – July 15, 2018

**Contemporary Connections: Silverpoint**  
May 1 – July 29, 2018

**Leonardo da Vinci: Machines**  
August 11 – November 11, 2018

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**Walter Inglis Anderson (Ocean Springs, MS, 1903-1965)**  
*Oak Limbs* c. 1950  
Watercolor on Paper  
A Lauren Rogers Museum purchase, 67.2