



Canton Museum of Art

• News Release •

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 29, 2011

Bertman and Lawson Exhibits, December 2 through March 4

Evocations: the Art of Martin Bertman

The intriguing artwork of Martin Bertman will be featured in a new exhibit at the Canton Museum of Art, opening on First Friday, December 2. *Evocations: the Art of Martin Bertman* will feature twenty five paintings and mixed media works, spanning the last twenty years. Guest curator, Tom Wachunas, describes Bertman's work as "sublimely poetic...where raw primitivism and pictorial refinement resonate with equal intensity."

Martin Bertman's abstracted figurations are vibrant and expressive, filled with intriguing motifs and symbols. Understandable, as his adult life has been a union of painting and academic philosophy. For more than twenty years Bertman taught philosophy at SUNY, followed by Chair of Philosophy at Ben-Gurion in Israel and 15 years teaching at Helsinki University. The busy life of academia merged with his life-long passion for art – which the artist describes as "a joyous unity." Bertman is a resident of North Canton.

"My father was a painter. Beginning as a child, I learned to look and see and look yet further, to look again. His essence guided my art and understanding of philosophy as an action of the self...Art deepens my person, indeed it is the color of my emotional exuberance. - Martin Bertman, PhD

Ted Lawson: A Moment in Time

From a single moment, artist Ted Lawson creates a composition, a sketch and finally a painting. *Ted Lawson: A Moment in Time* features sixteen watercolors, including scenes of Canton and New York City. There is a photographic quality to Lawson's work, capturing movement, with bold patterns, vivid colors and exciting composition.

Lawson, a signature member of the Ohio Watercolor Society, spent a tour in the US Navy and a career in engineering with Marathon Petroleum in Canton. During this time he also studied and practiced art, making it a second career upon his retirement from engineering. Lawson was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, and lives in Canton with his wife Patricia.

"I am an artist. That is how I define who I am -- a painter, a watercolor artist. Making art is my means of self-expression and self-fulfillment. I love to paint a variety of subjects including people, things and landmark locations. Each painting I create allows me to relive an experience and to reconceive that experience from a new perspective." – Ted Lawson, OWS

Evocations: the Art of Martin Bertman and *Ted Lawson: A Moment in Time* are companion exhibits to **Focus: Fiber 2011**, a juried triennial exhibition of contemporary fiber art, hosted in coordination with the Textile Art Alliance of the Cleveland Museum of Art. These new exhibits will be on display December 2 – March 4. Visitors on December 2 will enjoy FREE admission, for First Friday. A Members Opening Reception is planned for December 8. For further information about the exhibits or Museum Membership call 330-453-7666, or visit www.cantonart.org.

Credits for images:

Martin Bertman, Still Life, (2006), acrylic on canvas, 16" x 20"

Ted Lawson, Union Square Saturday, (2007), watercolor, 20" x 30"

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The Canton Museum of Art is located at 1001 Market Avenue North in the Cultural Center for the Arts, Canton, Ohio 44702. www.cantonart.org Phone: 330-453-7666.

Admission is \$6/adult, \$4/senior and student, children 12 and under are free and Canton Museum of Art members are free.

Museum Hours:

Monday – closed; Tuesday, Wednesday – 10 am – 8 pm; Thursday - Friday – 10 am – 5 pm
Saturday – 10 am – 3 pm; Sunday – 1 pm to 5 pm

The Ohio Arts Council helps fund the Canton Museum of Art with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

