



Greenville County **Museum of Art**

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gcma.org

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Greenville, SC (November 2013)— Drawn from the GCMA's permanent collection, this exhibition surveys eight decades of work created by artists living or working for an extended time in the Palmetto State. Ranging from the figurative to the architectural, *Eight Decades of New* features works by Elizabeth O'Neill Verner, Corrie McCallum, Merton Simpson, and William Halsey.

Beginning with some of the state's most contemporary works by such artists as William McCullough, Jill Hooper, Craig Crawford and Darell Koons and moving back to the 1940s, the exhibition invites viewers to discover how art has developed throughout the state of South Carolina.

Early works include *Turner's Grocery* by Henry Martin Gasser and *Two Women Working: Lowcountry Cabin* by Charleston and Low Country artist Anna Heyward Taylor. Elizabeth O'Neill Verner and Edmund Yaghjian, both of whom also painted in the Low Country, are represented by *The Aristocrat* and *Morning on Huger Street*, respectively.

The evolution of abstractionism in South Carolina begins with Corrie McCallum's *End of Market*. Work by McCallum's husband, William Halsey, is also featured in the exhibition. *Hanged Men* (1972) is juxtaposed with that of his student, Merton Simpson, whose contemporaneous *Orangeburg Massacre* (1968) may have influenced Halsey's *Hanged Men* series. Halsey was Simpson's first teacher at the Gibbes Museum in Charleston and later at the College of Charleston before Simpson moved to New York.

A number of works by Upstate artists are also featured in the exhibition, including Carl Blair, Emery Bopp, Jeanet Dreskin, Bob Chance, Carrie Burns Brown, and Bette Lee Coburn.

South Carolina Art: Eight Decades of New is on view through March 16, 2014. The Greenville County Museum of Art is located in the center of downtown Greenville's cultural campus, Heritage Green, at 420 College Street. The GCMA is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am until 6 pm and on Sundays from 1 pm until 5 pm. Admission is free

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