

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Greetings from Nashville

15 January – 23 February 2019

Reception: 28 January 2019, 5-7p

HARRISONBURG, VA — Duke Hall Gallery of Fine Art at James Madison University will open the group exhibition *Greetings from Nashville* on Tuesday, 15 January 2019. The exhibit, curated by Gallery Director and Chief Curator, John Ros, will be on view through 23 February 2019. Artists include: Molly Barnes, Matt Christy, Marlos E'van, Jodi Hays and Armon Means.

The gallery will host Jodi Hays, Artist, MFA Program Director at Watkins College of Art (Nashville, TN) and Founder and Curator of DADU (Nashville, TN) during an exhibition reception on Monday, 28 January from 5-7pm. Jodi will give a lecture about her studio and curatorial practices on Tuesday, 29 January from 7-8pm in Duke Hall room 2036. Other programming will include a panel discussion on artist-run initiatives and the artist DIY movement featuring Jodi Hays (DADU); Jon Henry (Old Furnace Artist Residency); Rob Mertens (Modular Project Space); Katie Mills (Pop-Up Art Collective); John Ros, moderator (studioELL). An Artist Film Series and exhibition programming at Arts Council of the Valley will also accompany this multi-faceted exhibition.

Nashville, TN recently overtook Austin, TX as one of the fastest growing cities in the US. *Greetings from Nashville* takes a look at what it means to be an artist in a growing city. Not only when it is advantageous to move to a growing city, but when a creative acts as a visionary on behalf of the larger community to build a better community for all. Barnes, Christy, E'van, Hays and Means have all, in their own ways, played roles in elevating the art scene of Nashville throughout the years. This exhibit is a visual conversation about community building and social awareness with a focus on symbol as activator and metaphor and will feature photos, cyanotypes, quilts, ceramics, sculpture and mixed-media paintings.

ARTISTS //

Molly Barnes (b. 1993 Nashville TN) received a BFA in 2015 from Mississippi State University and an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2017.

Matt Christy (b. 1983 Nashville TN) is a multi-disciplinary artist, writer and educator. He received a BFA in 2007 from Watkins College of Art and Design and an MFA from the University of Oregon in 2015.

Marlos E'van (b. 1989 Tupelo, MS) received a BFA from Watkins College of Art in 2016.

Jodi Hays (b. 1976 Hot Springs, AR) is an artist and curator. Hays received A BFA in 1998 from the University of Tennessee and an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Art in 2006.

Armon A. Means (b. 1976 Indianapolis, IN) is an instructor, curator and program director. Means received a BFA in Photography in 1999 from Cleveland Institute of Art and an MFA in Photography from Cranbrook Academy of Art in 2002.

EVENTS //

04-25 JAN 2019: EXHIBIT / *VA-AIM 2018: Participation*

@ Arts Council of the Valley, Downtown Harrisonburg, VA

Virginia Artists in the Marketplace (VA-AIM) Group Exhibit, in partnership with studioELL

22 JAN, 2019, 5.30pm: *VA-AIM 2018: Participation* Artist Panel Discussion

@ Arts Council of the Valley, Downtown Harrisonburg, VA

24 JAN 2019, 6pm (doors open @ 5.30pm): Artist Film Series

The Cool School: The Story of the Ferus Art Gallery (Arthouse Films), 2008

@ Massanutten Regional Library, Downtown Harrisonburg, VA

28 JAN 2019, 12-1pm: Panel Discussion

Artist-Run Initiatives & the Importance of the DIY Movement

Jodi Hays (DADU); Jon Henry (Old Furnace Artist Residency); Rob Mertens (Modular Project Space);
Katie Mills (Pop-Up Art Collective); John Ros, moderator (studioELL)

@ Duke Hall Room 2036, JMU

28 JAN 2019, 5-7pm: Reception: *Greetings from Nashville*

@ Duke Hall Gallery of Fine Art, JMU

29 JAN 2019, 7pm: Artist Lecture: Jodi Hays

@ Duke Hall Room 2036, JMU

01 FEB 2019: GALLERY OPEN FOR FIRST FRIDAY

07 FEB 2019, 6pm (doors open @ 5.30pm): Artist Film Series

I Am Not Your Negro (Kino Lorber Edu), 2016

@ The Golden Pony, Downtown Harrisonburg, VA

Special discussion led by Dr. Joanne Gabbin

21 FEB 2019, 6pm: Artist Film Series

Our City Dreams (First Run Features), 2008

@ Duke Hall Room 1032, JMU

GALLERY INFO //

Duke Hall Gallery of Fine Art's mission is to present the highest level of fine art experiences and to create an active space for robust discourse of vital issues facing our society. It is a space where the local and academic community share ideas about contemporary art and our wider cultural experiences. Art breaks barriers between languages and brings us together to be inspired and knowledgeable citizens, no matter where we come from.

WEB // jmu.edu/dukehallgallery

SOCIAL // @dukehallgallery #GreetingsFromNashville

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