

November 19, 2018

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**COLLEEN BROWNING, DONALD M. ROBINSON SUBJECTS OF NEW
EXHIBITIONS AT SAMA-BEDFORD**

Bedford – Two of the most important collections in the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art’s holdings will be on view in the latest exhibitions at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Bedford. The works of Colleen Browning and Donald M. Robinson will grace the Museum’s walls throughout the winter. *Colleen Browning: Realist-Illusionist* will be on view in the Titelman Galleries from December 7 through March 4. The Donald Robinson Gallery will host *Winterscapes by Donald M. Robinson* from December 14 through March 11.

Colleen Browning: Realist-Illusionist features 34 oils-on-canvas by the famed Magic Realist. Browning’s work has been lauded since her arrival in this country from England in 1949. A leader in the Modern and Post-Modern revivals of Realism in American art, Browning is a realist whose work defies attempts to categorize it. At a time when Jackson Pollock and other leading American artists had abandoned realism in favor of abstract expressionism, Browning maintained the course of her personal vision of realism and illusion in her paintings. Many of her figurative works exhibit the artist’s excellence in rendering human anatomy and perspective and her amazing ability to capture a fleeting moment in time.

Throughout her illustrious career, Browning has been a teacher, mentor and role model to artists at the Pratt Institute, the City College of New York, and the National Academy of Design. Her works are included in many private and public collections, including the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Milwaukee Art Center, the St. Louis Art Museum, and the New York State Art Museum, among many others. In 2010, SAMA received a major bequest of Browning’s artwork and personal memorabilia from the artist’s late husband, Geoffrey Wagner. With nearly 250 paintings and drawings in its permanent collection, SAMA is the leading repository of the artist’s work.

Twenty-eight stunning photographs will be on view in *Winterscapes by Donald M. Robinson*. From emperor penguins in Antarctica to polar bears in the Arctic, from bison in Yellowstone National Park to winter scenes in Pittsburgh’s Frick Park, the exhibition offers many examples of winter wonderlands.

Robinson studied photography under Cole Weston, Jay Maisel, William Neill, Arnold Newman and Phillip Hyde. As such, he developed an affinity to “straight” photography. His feeling was that “a special trust exists between photographers and the viewing public.”

“I consider myself a realistic photographer,” he once said. “Because I want my work to make sense to the viewer, I try to achieve naturalness and validity in everything I photograph. Even though my images are realistic, I continue to find great mystery and unanswered questions in many of my photographs.”

SAMA is the chief repository of the work of the late Pittsburgh photographer. Numbering in excess of 800 objects, the Robinson Collection includes documentary and nature photographs taken on six continents and in more than 60 countries.

The Museum will celebrate its latest exhibitions with a Jingle Mingle from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, December 14. Seasonal libations and savory bites will be offered. Cost is \$10 per person. Reservations can be made by contacting the Museum at (814) 589-3020 or bedford@sama-art.org.

SAMA-Bedford is located in the historic Anderson House at 137 E. Pitt St. The Museum is open daily 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Museum is closed Tuesdays and holidays. Cost of admission is \$10 per person or free admission for SAMA members, ages 21 & under and 65 & older. The Museum offers free admission for Bedford residents on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. Parking is available on the street or in the lot at the rear of the building. For more information, please call (814) 589-3020 or visit www.sama-art.org.