

NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOLK MUSIC, FINE ART, WINE & CHEESE HEADLINE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM PARTY

WHO: Worcester Art Museum

WHAT: Third Thursday: Live Music with Jim Berkeley

WHERE: 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA in the Museum Café

WHEN: Thursday, November 20, 2008 **TIME:** 5:30-8 p.m.



(WORCESTER, Mass., November 7, 2008) – Local acoustic folk musician Jim Berkeley will perform live at Worcester Art Museum on Thursday, November 20. Berkeley will perform in the Museum Café, and a complimentary wine-tasting session with a cash bar will also be provided as part of this month's *Third Thursday at WAM*.

A native of Shrewsbury, Berkeley is an award winning singer-songwriter, composer, and multi-instrumentalist. He plays guitar, banjo, mandolin, harmonica, slide, and banjo-ukulele. In 2007, he was named the write-in winner for Best Singer/Songwriter of Worcester Magazine's Turtle Boy Music Awards. Berkeley is currently studying mandolin with Nashville bluegrass legend Mike Compton. His music combines pre-war blues, country, and old-time with lyrics that speak to current events, relationships, and rural life.

Berkeley has performed at such diverse venues as Club Passim in Boston, Columbia University, Ukestock '08, and in Worcester at Vincent's Bar and Hotel Vernon. On Thursday, he will perform his score from the Cine Golden Eagle award-winning short film, "Moment of Silence." His CD, "Live at Orr's Island", will be available after the show.

"Over the years, many types of voices have been represented at Worcester Art Museum, and I'm honored to be one of them," said Berkeley.

This month's *Third Thursday at WAM* will begin at 5:30, and it is free for members and \$10 for non-members. A tradition at the museum, *Third Thursday at WAM* features a different musician and guided exhibition tour on the third Thursday of each month. For November, the guided tour will feature the recently unveiled "Actions Speak" by artist-activist collaborative THINK AGAIN. A hybrid of photography, drawing, etching, sculpture and digital design, "Actions Speak" examines the frustrated relationships between government, and the news media pertaining to often unmentionable topics of brutality, domestic violence, HIV and AIDS. THINK AGAIN accompanies their 17 x 67 foot mural in the Renaissance Court with a corresponding video that will project on the museum's Lancaster Street façade.

Located on Salisbury St., in Worcester, Massachusetts, the Worcester Art Museum opened in 1898 and is one of America's most respected art museums. The Museum is world-renowned for its 35,000-piece collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings and new media. For more information, visit www.worcesterart.org.

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