

WORCESTER ART MUSEUM

WAM to exhibit photographs by the late Tony King

Art rotation highlights diversity of artistic talent in Central Massachusetts

Worcester, MA—May 2, 2018—Photographs by the late B. A. “Tony” King will be exhibited at the Worcester Art Museum in two separate locations as part of a rotation that recognizes regional artists. Five photographs by the artist will be on view in the Sydney and Rosalie Rose Gallery, from May 9 through November 11, 2018; an additional 31 will be shown in the Museum Café, from May 23rd through November 30th 2018.

Tony King (1934-2017) began his love affair with photography as a child when his mother gave him his first camera. Through his photographic lens, the artist captured the beauty and magnificence of the natural world, as well as the joy and poignancy of life. A visual “omnivore,” King focused his camera on many types of subjects—from 1970s street photography to more recent microscopic investigations of ice—throughout the United States, but particularly Massachusetts and Kennebunkport, Maine.

“The Worcester Art Museum is most fortunate to be located in a region that is home to many important contemporary artists, and we are very proud to dedicate this installation to Tony King, commemorating his work a year after his passing,” said Matthias Waschek, C. Jean and Myles McDonough Director of the Worcester Art Museum.

Organized by Nancy Burns, associate curator of prints, drawings and photographs, and Rachael Kane, Moggio fellow for diversity in the arts, the presentation of Tony King’s work in the Rose Gallery allows for dialogue with works by Alex Katz, Kiki Smith and Alice Neel. The second installation will be shown in the Museum Café, reflecting the artist’s history of presenting his work in non-traditional spaces to reach a broader audience. The Café installation is curated by Matthias Waschek and Regina Zanetti, curator/archivist of the Judy and Tony King Foundation.

The local artist rotation in the Rose Gallery at WAM, continues the Museum’s tradition of highlighting the diversity of artistic talent in Central Massachusetts. Regional artists recently displayed at WAM include photographer Ron Rosenstock in 2011, sculptor Jill Slosburg-Ackerman in 2012, children’s book illustrator Ed Emberley in 2016,

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photomontage artist John O'Reilly, and painter John Pagano in 2017. Through September 2, 2018 the Museum is showing dip pen and ink drawings by Worcester artist James Dye, winner of the Sally R. Bishop Prize of the 2017 ArtsWorcester Biennial.

Support for this project has been generously provided by the Stoddard Charitable Trust and the Judy and Tony King Foundation.

About the Worcester Art Museum

Founded in 1896, the Worcester Art Museum's encyclopedic 38,000 piece collection covers 51 centuries of art. Highlights include the Medieval Chapter House, Renaissance Court, and Worcester Hunt Mosaic, as well as the recently integrated John Woodman Higgins Collection of arms and armor. The Museum is internationally known for its collection of European and American art. WAM was the first museum in the world to purchase a Monet painting of water lilies (1910) and a painting by Gauguin (1921). It was also among the first American museums to exhibit photography as fine art (1904), as well as to install an entire work of architecture—a 12th-century Romanesque chapter house—as a permanent exhibit. As the first U.S. museum to focus on collaborating with local schools, it has been at the forefront of engaging audiences and giving them a meaningful and personal experience for over a century.

The Worcester Art Museum, located at 55 Salisbury Street in Worcester, MA, is open Wednesday Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and every third Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is \$16 for adults, \$6 for children 4-17, \$14 for seniors 65+, and \$14 for college students with ID. Members and children under four are free. Museum parking is free on a first-come, first-served basis; street parking is also available. For more information, visit worcesterart.org.

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