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'This & That'

Tyler Museum of Arts shows off its recent acquisitions

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ART | EXHIBITIONS

An extraordinary opportunity that recently benefited the Tyler Museum of Art forms the nucleus of "This & That: Recent Acquisitions," the museum's latest major exhibition.

Organized by the museum and curated by Caleb Bell, the exhibition highlights significant additions to the museum's permanent collection acquired over the past several years. The exhibition continues through Jan. 6. Admission is free.

Earlier this year, the Tyler Museum of Art was one of several Texas museums invited by the Blanton Museum of Art in Austin to participate in the disbursement of The Contemporary Austin's collection.

In a football-draft-style process, Bell and Executive Director Chris Leahy acquired more than 30 works — 18 of which became part of the Tyler Museum of Art's permanent collection. Putting these works on display to East Texas audiences for the first time seemed a natural progression.

"As the exhibition title suggests, the highlighted works are diverse, offering an assortment of subjects and artistic styles," Bell said. "Through this generous gift, works by numerous artists previously unrepresented entered into our permanent collection. At the same time, the depth of our holdings of works by several other artists increased."

"This & That" also showcases for the first time gifts from private individuals and families as well as recent Collectors' Circle purchases, including Hadar Sobol's "Just So It Doesn't Come Unraveled" and Liz Ward's "Ghosts of the Old Mississippi: Baton Rouge to Donaldsonville."

Works span from early Texas selections, such as iconic bluebonnet scenes by Porfirio Salinas and Robert Julian Onderdonk and landscapes by Michael Frary, to pieces by noted "Dallas Nine" artists Otis Dozier and William Lester and more contemporary works by Julie Speed and Larry Graeber.

Additional pieces by Ancel Nunn, Lee N. Smith III, Ann Stautberg and Sydney Yeager complement their other works already in the museum's permanent collection.

Community Partner sponsor Southside Bank and Patron sponsors Lisa and Michael Lujan provided support for the exhibition

Located at 1300 S. Mahon Ave. on the campus of Tyler Junior College, the museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Jon Perry is the museum's communications and membership coordinator.