February 6, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Event Announcement

New Weatherspoon Program: WAMJam + Film Series
Slow down, listen and observe.

Thursdays, February 6, March 6 + April 3, 6pm, free and open to the public

The Weatherspoon Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro presents a new series of contemplative music and non-narrated, documentary films that invite us to simply notice the world around us.

Music performances begin at 6pm in the Weatherspoon atrium. Films begin at 6:30pm in the Weatherspoon auditorium and include a post-screening discussion. Free and open to the public. Parking is available directly behind the Weatherspoon.

Thursday, February 6
Music @ 6 pm
Saccades is a performance described as "improvisations for double bass and electronics exploring themes of focus, repetition and perception." Featuring Jonathan Wall, digital artist and computer programmer, and Steven Landis, composer and double bassist.
Film: Bestiaire @ 6:30 pm
"A popular sensation in medieval Europe, bestiaries were catalogs of beasts featuring exotic animal illustrations, zoological wisdom, and ancient legends. Denis Côté’s startling Bestiaire unfolds like a filmic picture book where both humans and animals are on display. As we observe them, they also observe us and one another, invoking the Hindu idea of darshan: a mutual beholding that initiates a shift in consciousness."
(Sundance Film Festival, 2012). Directed by Denis Côté, 2012. DVD. No dialogue. Not rated. 72 min.

A post-screening discussion will be led by Dr. Larry Lavender, UNCG Professor of Dance and Faculty Fellow in the Lloyd International Honors College. His research areas include choreography, improvisation, creativity theories and practices, and critical animal studies.

Thursday, March 6
Music @ 6 pm
A capella performance by the UNCG Women's Glee Club, directed by Dr. Carole Ott, including works by 12th century composer, writer, and Benedictine abbess Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179).

Film: Samsara @ 6:30 pm
From the creators of Baraka (1992) and Chronos (1985), Samsara explores the wonders of our world from the mundane to the miraculous, looking into the unfathomable reaches of man’s spirituality and the human experience. Neither a traditional documentary nor a travelogue, Samsara takes the form of a nonverbal, guided meditation. Through powerful, beautiful and brutal images, the film illuminates the links between humanity and the rest of nature, showing how our life cycle mirrors the rhythm of the planet. (Oscilloscope Pictures). Directed by Ron Fricke, 2012. Rated PG-13, disturbing scenes of chicken processing plants, human disfigurement, and sexual imagery. Parental guidance suggested. DVD. No dialogue. 102 minutes.

* A post-screening discussion will be led by Budd Wilkins, film critic, writer and UNCG alumnus. His film blog can be read at www.buddwilkins.com.

Thursday, April 3
Music @ 6 pm
Dr. Carole Ott, Associate Director of Choral Activities at UNCG returns with the Josquin Project, student ensemble, for a selection of improvisational a cappella works inspired by Josquin des Prez (c. 1450-1521).

Film: Into Great Silence @ 6:30 pm
Nestled deep in the postcard-perfect French Alps, the Grande Chartreuse is considered one of the world’s most ascetic monasteries. In 1984, filmmaker Philip Gröning wrote to the Carthusian order for permission to make a documentary about them. They said they would get back to him. Sixteen years later, they were ready. Gröning lived in the monks’ quarters for six months—filming their daily prayers, tasks, rituals and rare outdoor excursions. This transcendent, closely observed film seeks to embody a monastery, rather than simply depict one—it has no score, no voiceover and no archival footage. What remains is stunningly elemental: time, space and light. Into Great Silence dissolves

A post-screening discussion will be led by Dr. Derek Krueger, Joe Rosenthal Excellence Professor, Department of Religious Studies, and Program Faculty, Women's and Gender Studies at UNCG. His research interests include Christian culture in Late Antiquity and Byzantium, and he has written about saints’ lives as a literary genre, about monasticism, the everyday religion of lay Christians, and the reception of the Bible. His latest research explores how the culture of monasticism in Byzantium produced ideas about masculinity, gender, sexuality, and friendship.


For more information on the upcoming installation and performance times, visit [http://weatherspoon.uncg.edu](http://weatherspoon.uncg.edu).

**About the Weatherspoon Art Museum**

**Mission**
The Weatherspoon Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro acquires, preserves, exhibits, and interprets modern and contemporary art for the benefit of its multiple audiences, including university, community, regional, and beyond. Through these activities, the museum recognizes its paramount role of public service, and enriches the lives of diverse individuals by fostering an informed appreciation and understanding of the visual arts and their relationship to the world in which we live.

**History**
The Weatherspoon Art Museum at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro was founded by Gregory Ivy in 1941 and is the earliest of any art facilities within the UNC system. The museum was founded as a resource for the campus, community, and region and its early leadership developed an emphasis—maintained to this day—on presenting and acquiring modern and contemporary works of art. A 1950 bequest from the renowned collection of Claribel and Etta Cone, which included prints and bronzes by Henri Matisse and other works on paper by American and European modernists, helped to establish the Weatherspoon’s permanent collection. Other prescient acquisitions during Ivy’s tenure included a 1951 suspended mobile by Alexander Calder, *Woman* by Willem de Kooning, a pivotal work in the artist’s career that was purchased in 1954, and the first drawings by Eva Hesse and Robert Smithson to enter a museum collection.

In 1989, the museum moved into its present location in The Anne and Benjamin Cone Building designed by the architectural firm Mitchell Giurgula. The museum has six galleries and a sculpture courtyard with over 17,000 square feet of exhibition space. The American Association of Museums accredited the Weatherspoon in 1995 and renewed its accreditation in 2005.

**Collections + Exhibitions**
The permanent collection of the Weatherspoon Art Museum is considered to be one of the foremost of its kind in the Southeast. It represents all major art movements from the beginning of the 20th century to the present. Of the nearly 6,000 works in the collection are pieces by such prominent figures as Sol LeWitt, Robert Mangold, Cindy Sherman, Al Held, Alex Katz, Henry Tanner, Louise Nevelson, Mark di Suvero, Deborah Butterfield, and Robert Rauschenberg. The museum regularly lends to major exhibitions nationally and internationally.
The Weatherspoon also is known for its adventurous and innovative exhibition program. Through a dynamic annual calendar of fifteen to eighteen exhibitions and a multi-disciplinary educational program for audiences of all ages, the museum provides an opportunity for audiences to consider artistic, cultural, and social issues of our time and enriches the life of our university, community, and region.

**Weatherspoon Art Museum**  
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